

APR 18 1986

STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA  
Historical Building

Iowa  
CONSERVATIONIST

April 1986



# Iowa CONSERVATIONIST

Volume 45 No. 4 • April 1985

## STAFF

Roger Sparks, *Editor*  
Julie Holmes, *Assistant Editor*  
Ron Johnson, *Photographer*  
Kenneth Formanek, *Photographer*  
Larry Pool, *Graphic Artist*

## CONTENTS

- 2 1986 Fishing Forecast
- 10 Warden's Diary
- 10 Calendar
- 11 Conservation Update
- 12 1985 Big Fish Awards
- 16 Nature Tale
- 17 Profile of an Endangered Species
- 18 Opening Day Fever
- 20 40 Years as a Warden
- 21 Morels and False Morels

**FRONT COVER:** Early season walleye fishing on Spirit Lake. Photo by Ron Johnson.

**BACK COVER:** Morel mushroom. Photo by Jerry Leonard.

## THE IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Baxter Freese, *Wellman*; John D. Field, *Hamburg*; Marian Pike, *Whiting*; F. Richard Thornton, *Des Moines*; William B. Ridout, *Estherville*; Thomas E. Spahn, *Dubuque*; and Sam Kennedy, *Clear Lake*.

**DIRECTOR:** Larry J. Wilson.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR:** Robert Fagerland.

**DIVISION CHIEFS:** Allen Farris, *Fish and Wildlife*; Stanley C. Kuhn, *Division of Administration*; Michael Carrier, *Lands and Waters*.

**SECTION SUPERINTENDENTS:** Tom Albright, *Engineering*; Doyle Adams, *Parks*; Richard Bishop, *Wildlife*; James Mayhew, *Fisheries*; Lester Fleming, *Grants-in-Aid*; Gene Hertel, *State Forester*; Rick McGeough, *Law Enforcement*; Gene Geissinger, *Accounting*; Arnie Sohn, *Planning*; John Beamer, *Land Acquisition*; Judy Pawell, *License*; Ross Harrison, *Information and Education*; Robert Walker, *County Conservation Activities*.

\*\*\*

**IOWA CONSERVATIONIST** (USPS 268-780), is published monthly by the Iowa Conservation Commission, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. Second class postage paid in Des Moines, Iowa, and additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send changes of address to the Iowa Conservationist, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Send subscriptions — one year; \$5.00, two years; \$8.00, or 3 years; \$10.00 — to the address above.

The Iowa Conservation Commission offers equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, or handicap. If you feel you have been discriminated against, please contact us.

# 1986 FISHING FORECAST

*It should be an exciting and rewarding year for anglers in Iowa this year. Information has been solicited from fisheries biologists, with an aim to shorten the time between bites. Here are their predictions for the 1986 fishing season.*

## Southeast

By Steve Waters  
District Fisheries Supervisor

### LARGEMOUTH BASS

Mississippi River anglers reported that the 12-inch minimum-size limit on bass has meant a greater number and larger sizes of bass caught. As with most angling on the river, water clarity and water levels will dictate angling success. Top bass areas in the southern reach of the river are Big Timber, Cleveland Slough, Hidden Acres, and Bogus Island backwaters in Pool 17; Huron Island and lower Burnt Pocket backwaters in Pool 18; Burlington Island, riprap shores and stream mouths in Pool 19.

Coralville Reservoir (Johnson Co.) and Pleasant Creek (Linn Co.) are lakes of a different color, but both will produce excellent fishing. Coralville's fishing success is directly related to water level and clarity. When water conditions are good, tons of action can be expected from the many bass that live along the rock ledges, points and bays. Pleasant Creek bass run 16 to 20 inches in that crystal clear impoundment. After spring warm-up, fishing in the deeper water seems to produce best results.

Top bets for bigger bass are Rathbun Reservoir (Appanoose Co.) and lakes Darling (Washington Co.) and Hawthorn (Mahaska Co.). Additional top bass lakes include Miami (Monroe Co.), Odessa (Lousia Co.), Iowa (Iowa Co.) and Geode (Henry Co.).

### CRAPPIE

The top crappie impoundments in terms of numbers and size (9 to 12 inches) are Coralville Reservoir, Lake Darling and Lake Odessa. Anglers fishing Darling should pay strict attention to the buoys, which mark man-made fish attracting structure and to the deeper water near the dam, both before and after the crappie spawn. Fallen trees and stump fields at Lake Odessa are good producers. Sand Run through Horse-shoe Bend and Yankee Chute are consistent hot spots and Fox Pond, the inlet, and outlet areas are good when water is moving in spring and fall.

Rathbun Reservoir continues to be a good crappie lake. A 1985 creel survey showed that 88,000 7- to 12-inch crappie were harvested by anglers. There will also be good numbers of seven- to eight-inch fish to catch at Lakes Hawthorn, Miami, and Wapello. Crappie angling on the Mississippi River for 8- to 11-inch crappie should be good in the same backwaters where great bass fishing can be found. Fish hold tight to stumps, logs and brush in June, July and October. Crappie will be suspended in open water areas with deep holes (Big Timber) in August and September.

### BLUEGILL

Survey netting reveals that Lake Odessa will have another banner year for hand-size bluegill, with lots of fish reaching eight inches. The





Ron Johnson

crappie areas plus the large stands of water lilies will offer great bluegill action. Red Haw (Lucas Co.) will again produce excellent catches of seven- to nine-inch bluegills and ten-inch trophies are available to seal a memorable trip. The Mississippi River is always a great bluegill producer around the same areas that good crappie and bass angling exists.

Additional lakes in which six-inch-plus bluegill can be taken are Lumbach and Railroad (Scott Co.), Hawthorn (over 10,000 harvested in 1985), Miami and Shimek Forest ponds (Lee Co.).

### CHANNEL CATFISH

Southeast Iowa is a paradise for channel catfish anglers. The cage catfish and maintenance stocking programs have established excellent catfish populations in almost all Iowa lakes. The following lakes are guaranteed catfish havens: Rathbun (all sizes including many lunkers),

Miami, Wapello, Morris (Lucas Co.), Darling, Odessa, Geode, Pollmiller (Lee Co.), Belva Deere (Keokuk Co.), Iowa and Coralville Reservoir.

A 1984 increase in the minimum commercial size for channel catfish on the Mississippi will mean more 13- to 16-inch fish on the stringer for sport fishermen. The fastest fishing will occur during the hot weather of August and September. Stinkbaits and nightcrawlers fished above wing dams and rip-rapped islands offer good results. The biggest fish are caught during the June spawning period in shallow rock areas and stump fields. The Wapsi, Skunk, Cedar, Des Moines and Iowa are excellent rivers to find a secluded spot in which to fill a stringer and enjoy nature.

### WALLEYE

The Mississippi River has to be one of the best walleye and sauger fisheries anywhere. Peak fishing

periods are March and April, August and September, and November and December. The best fishing areas are tailwaters and around wing dams. Although one- to three-pound fish dominate the catch, trophy fish are readily available.

Top impoundments for walleye are Rathbun and Macbride (Johnson Co.). Many anglers feel that several state record fish are haunting Rathbun Reservoir and a trophy catch is often the rule. Macbride's walleye average more than two pounds and are most often taken on crankbaits and jig and minnow combinations.

### OTHER SPECIES

Although several area lakes have received *tiger musky* stockings, Hawthorn and Rathbun have the best populations. Creel clerks at Hawthorn and netting crews at Rathbun report good numbers of trophy fish.

*Bullhead* enthusiasts will want to include trips to Darling, Odessa and river backwater areas to catch this cooperative fish.

The Skunk (Washington, Jefferson, Henry, and Des Moines Co.), Iowa (Louisa Co.), Cedar (Louisa Co.) and Wapsipincon (Clinton and Scott Co.) Rivers are favorites for *flathead catfish* anglers. Large chubs or a gob of worms work well. Fish deep holes in summer and fall and around bridge pilings for trophy fish.

*White bass* angling should be great at Rathbun and the Mississippi River. Most fish will range from 10 to 15 inches and this spirited fish is often found in arm-tiring numbers.

*Paddlefish* snagging is most productive in the Mississippi River tailwaters and below dams at Oakland Mills (Skunk River) and Ottumwa (Des Moines River).

### FARM PONDS

Farm pond fishing for largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish is so productive that it warrants special attention. These mini-lakes produce more large fish than any other water type and are great places to begin the new fishing season. Keep in mind, you will be fishing on private property, which requires the owner's permission. The utmost respect is due the landowner.



# Southwest

By Joe Schwartz  
District Fisheries Supervisor

## WIPERS

On May 21, 1981, an aircraft arrived in Iowa from northern Texas with a shipment of small fish destined to provide excitement to Iowa anglers. This first of a series of annual stockings of "wipers", a hybrid between white bass and ocean striped bass, initiated what has proven to be a successful and popular new trophy fishery in central Iowa. Saylorville Reservoir (Polk Co.) is our only lake to date which has received this hybrid, but the fish have moved upstream as far north as Fort Dodge and south to Red Rock Reservoir.

January of 1986 produced a new state record of 8 lb 7 oz, and Tom Putnam, the area biologist, looks for a ten pounder to be taken this year.

Report cards completed by anglers indicate that, although they can be caught anytime during the open-water season, one of the best times is during the spring from mid-April to mid-May. Best spots to catch hybrids in the past have been below Saylorville, Scott Street and Center Street dams, and they should be good again this year. The lowhead dams in Boone county should also be good.

Hybrids can be taken on a variety of baits, but lead-head jigs and twist-tails seem to be the most consistent.

## CRAPPIE

The biggest and best crappie will come from central Iowa's two flood control reservoirs. Saylorville and Red Rock both have crappies up to two pounds, but success will vary with water conditions. Stable or slowly rising, clear water provides the best fishing conditions at these two reservoirs. Crappie fishing can be fantastic or terrible depending on water and weather. Lake Icaria (Adams Co.) should be good for crappie in the 8- to 13-inch range. Most will be ten inches. This popular lake suffered from serious siltation and muddy water in 1984 which ruined fishing that year. Fish condition, which had declined in 1984,

bounced back in 1985, although fishing proved to be slow. This was probably a result of large amounts of natural food produced in 1985 available to the fish. With good water in 1986 the lake will return to excellent fishing. For the most fun, use ultra-light gear and tiny white or yellow jigs or minnows. Fish brushy or rocky areas near shores in the spring. Crappie move to deeper water as the season progresses when drift fishing in 10-15 feet of water is productive.

Big Creek should be hot for crappie again this year. Two sizes of fish will be taken. Most fish belong to the 1983 year class and are nine to ten inches. About ten percent of the fish are 11 to 12 inches.

Other good crappie lakes include Anita (Cass Co.), Roberts Creek (Marion Co.), Viking (Montgomery Co.), Greenfield (Adair Co.), Meadow (Adair Co.), Nodaway (Adair Co.), Willow (Harrison Co.), Thayer (Union Co.), Wilson (Taylor

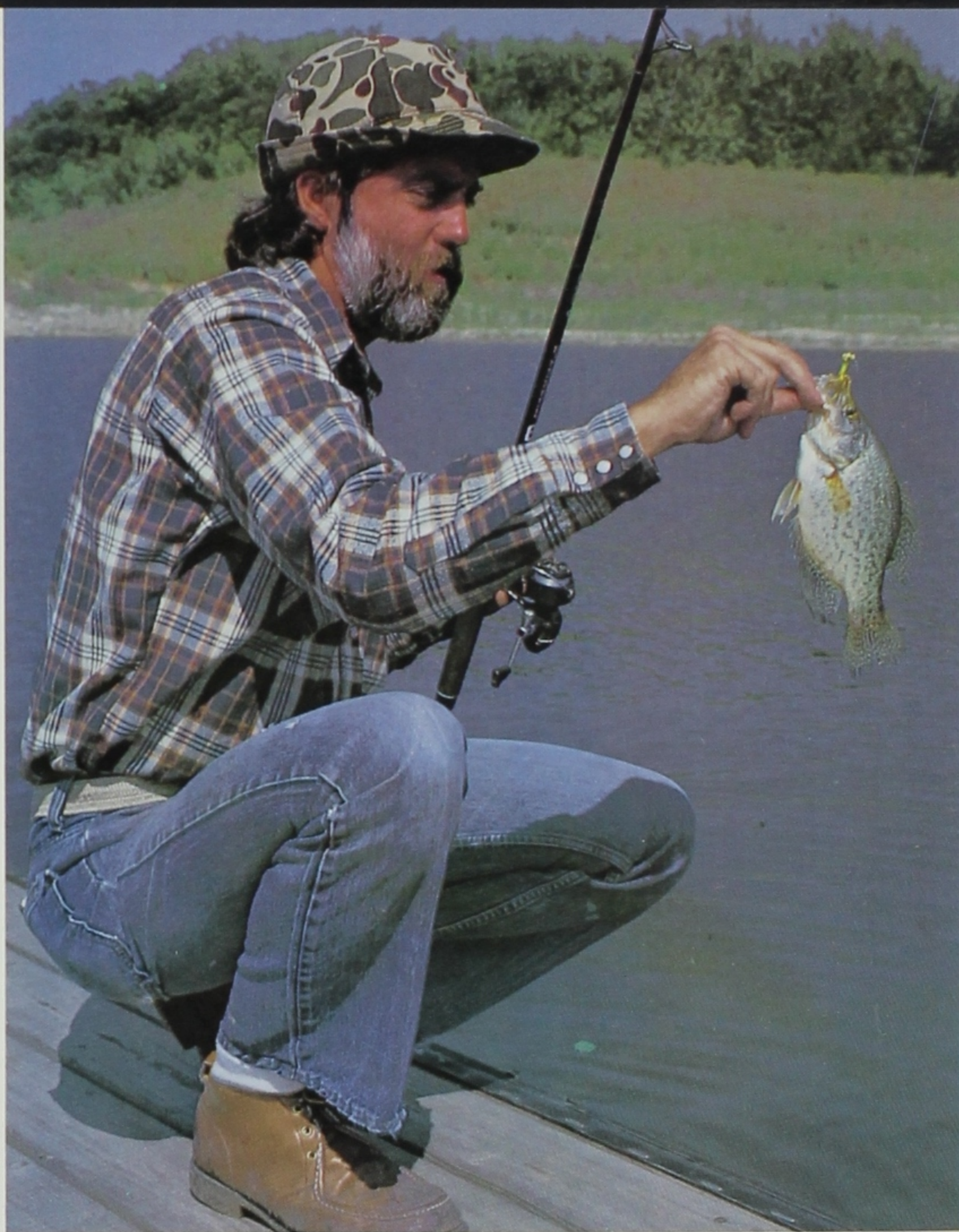
Co.), and Windmill (Taylor Co.) Lakes. All lakes contain good numbers of nice crappie and should provide lots of fish.

Don Williams (Boone Co.) and Green Valley (Union Co.) both have good crappie fishing, but many of the fish are borderline keepers.

## LARGEMOUTH BASS

Farm ponds offer thousands of acres of uncrowded, fish-filled water in the region. Many of these small reservoirs contain lunker bass, and spring is the time to catch them. Farm ponds typically warm faster than larger lakes and for those bass fishermen anxious to get the season underway, a farm pond is the place to try first. Bass grow big in ponds and the chance of catching a trophy is excellent.

Bass fishing is also best in the spring in public lakes, but tapers off through the hot summer months.



Ken Formanek



Twelve Mile (Union Co.) is the latest lake to enter the bass fishing scene in SW Iowa. This 630-acre lake, located four miles east of Creston, received a generous stocking of large bass from ponds in the watershed following heavy rains. Last year local fishermen took numerous bass greater than the 14-inch length limit.

Several other area lakes have provided good bass fishing in the past and there isn't any reason to think they won't again this year. Older lakes like Green Valley, Nine Eagles (Decatur Co.), Thayer, Viking, Easter (Polk Co.), and Anita all have populations of good-sized bass. Saylorville and Three Fires (Taylor Co.) can be good at times depending on water quality. Both can be very turbid though. Prairie Rose (Shelby Co.) and Ahquabi (Warren Co.) were both drained in 1981, restocked with bass in 1982, and have good numbers of keeper bass.

## BLUEGILL

The outlook for bluegill fishing in the region looks bright again this year. The biggest fish will be taken from Big Creek, Anita and Icaria. Lots of fish from seven to nine inches are at all three lakes. Other area lakes with fish in the six- to eight-inch category include Willow, Meadow, Greenfield, Viking, Hickory Grove (Story Co.), Don Williams, Walnut Creek Marsh (Ringgold Co.), Twelve Mile, and Nine Eagles.

Bluegills can be caught with worms, small spinners, jigs and flies. Late May is the best time to catch them concentrated on their spawning beds. They can be located by following the shoreline and looking for the telltale swirls bluegills made while protecting their nest. Later in the year, the edge of weedbeds produce in the mornings and evenings. Drift-fishing in deep water will take them during midday.

## CHANNEL CATFISH

All of our streams, including some of the smaller ones, public lakes and many farm ponds contain channel catfish. Streams have naturally reproducing populations and all public lakes are stocked heavily.

Catfish can be caught just about any time of year, but the traditional

time is during the hot part of summer. Prepared bait, chicken liver and nightcrawlers are some of the common baits used during this time and work well on both lakes and streams.

Green Valley, Viking, Icaria or Big Creek are good bets for lunker cats. The Des Moines River is an exceptional catfish producer. The upper end of Saylorville or Red Rock offer some easy fish, although anywhere on the Des Moines is good.

## WALLEYE

We don't have many walleye lakes in southwest Iowa, but the ones we have are good. Big Creek and Icaria both contain good populations of walleyes. Most fish taken at these two lakes are two pounds although fish up to ten pounds are found in both lakes. Saylorville Reservoir is stocked with walleyes annually, but they are difficult to catch from the lake. Best success has been along the face of the dam and on sandy points.

The vast majority of walleye taken at Saylorville are caught below the dam. Fishing is good from the spillway downstream to Des Moines. Below Scott and Center Street dams are periodically good for walleye. North of Saylorville into Boone County is also good for walleye. Any rocky area is good, but below the lowhead dams is better.

## BULLHEAD

We have four lakes that are loaded with bullheads this year. They aren't lunkers, averaging seven to nine inches, and should be easily caught. Rock Creek (Jasper), Prairie Rose, Green Valley and Twelve Mile are the places to try for bullheads.

## OTHER SPECIES

The Des Moines River corridor from Des Moines north to Boone County contains some pretty nice *northern pike*. Fish up to ten pounds are commonly caught by walleye fishermen. Using a twister and jig might produce a northern, walleye, or wiper.

*Flathead catfish* also abound in our larger rivers. The Des Moines is a good place to try for a big one. Flatheads demand live bait like big chubs or green sunfish.

# Northwest

By Tom Gengerke

District Fisheries Supervisor

## WALLEYE

The best walleye fishing will be found on Spirit, East Okoboji and Silver Lakes (Dickinson Co.), where 12- to 16-inch fish are common and the opportunity to catch larger fish, especially on Spirit and East Okoboji, is always present. The key to good spring fishing on Big Spirit is a late ice-out followed by steadily increasing water temperatures.

According to survey information there was excellent survival of the 1983 year class. Many of these fish will be 12 inches or larger and will contribute substantially to the creel for the next two to three years. If water is flowing out of Big Spirit and into the north end of East Okoboji, anglers would be well advised to try that area.

Silver Lake has a nice population of harvestable walleyes due to maintenance stocking and increased overwinter survival during the past four winters. Springtime hotspots will include the Island Area and Trapper's Bay Inlet.

Clear Lake (Cerro Gordo Co.) may also be a top walleye producer this year. Many fish in the 12- to 16-inch range were present last year and, with good survival, should please anglers this season.

River fishing for walleyes has been excellent during the past four years and from all indications, 1986 will also be a producer. The Raccoon River below Sac City, the Little Sioux River in Buena Vista, Cherokee and



Ron Johnson



Clay Counties, the Des Moines River in Emmet County and the West Fork of the Des Moines River from Rutland to the Cornbelt Dam should be especially good.

## YELLOW PERCH

Last year, as predicted, was indeed a year to remember for yellow perch fishing. The return of normal water levels during the early 1980's allowed for strong year-class development during these years. This fishery will continue through 1986 although the catch rate may drop off slightly. The best fishing will be found on Big Spirit and West Okoboji. Activity will start during June or July, around weed beds, and will proceed into the fall. Large numbers of 9- to 11-inch perch were harvested from Spirit during the fall of 1985. Small jigs tipped with silver wigglers or wax-worms are especially effective.

## BULLHEAD

Black Hawk Lake (Sac Co.), Clear Lake and Silver Lake will provide the best bullhead fishing in northwest Iowa during 1986. Both of these lakes are loaded with fish and should produce both quality and quantity. Crawford Creek in Ida County is another lake with a super population of eight- and nine-inch bullheads that are largely underfished. Many of these areas are especially productive after dark so bring your lantern.

## CHANNEL CATFISH

Rivers and catfish go hand-in-hand and excellent fishing will be available in virtually all area rivers during 1986. The Little Sioux (Buena Vista, Cherokee and Clay Co.), Big Sioux, West Fork of the Des Moines (Emmet and Humboldt Co.) and the Iowa River in Hardin County will be premier areas. The best fishing occurs from June through September.

Excellent channel catfishing is also available in many of our area lakes. Lake Pahoja (Lyon Co.), Cornelia (Wright Co.), Little Wall (Hamilton Co.) and Black Hawk Lake will offer some of the best fishing. My personal choice for a real quality cat would be East Okoboji and Storm Lake in Buena Vista County. There were a number of twenty pounders taken last year so bring your heavy rod.

## MUSKELLUNGE

It's the fish of a thousand casts — or maybe just one! Activity usually peaks in late June, early July and again in late summer, with some hard-core fishermen experiencing good success again in late fall. Spirit Lake has been the most consistent producer during the past three years and 1986 should be no exception. A number of trophy-class (30-pound-plus) fish will be caught this year — but not by the faint of heart. The sporadic success on West Okoboji is probably a function of somewhat inconsistent effort on this lake. This is the oldest musky population in Iowa and a state record is there. The increase in natural vegetation and the addition of artificial substrate in the form of Berkley Fish Hab™, through a cooperative project with the Upper Great Plains Chapter of Muskies Inc. and the Iowa Conservation Commission helped to turn East Okoboji "on" during 1985 and this should continue during 1986.

## NORTHERN PIKE

Good to excellent fishing can be expected at Big Spirit, Tuttle and West Okoboji Lakes. Recruitment has been excellent during the past three years and many fish in the two- to six-pound class are available. Concentrate your effort around the rushes in Anglers Bay and the weed line or isolated pockets of vegetation in the rest of Big Spirit. Flashy spoons are particularly effective, along with Mepps spinners, spinner baits with

hammered blades, Rapalas and live chubs. The Winnebago River from the state line to Mason City will also provide river anglers with plenty of excitement. River anglers should watch for tributary streams or adjacent marshy areas since both of these habitat types hold northern pike.

## SMALLMOUTH BASS

Lake smallmouth fishermen will start early and concentrate on rock piles or rocky points. They'll prefer a shiner and fish it slowly. West Okoboji and Spirit Lake both produce quality fish; however, more consistent fishing can be expected on West Okoboji. When water temperatures rise, crankbaits are preferred. River fishing, once the rivers begin to stabilize, usually produces more fish per trip, although they are seldom as large as those taken in lakes. The Iowa River from Alden to Eldora, the Boone River in Hamilton County and the Winnebago River from Fertile to its confluence with the Shell Rock offer some of Iowa's finest river smallmouth bass fishing. Knowledgeable anglers concentrate their effort downstream from riffle areas, near submerged timber and in deep holes. One of the best approaches is to float a stretch by canoe since it allows access to remote areas. A 12-inch minimum length limit applies on all interior streams and a 14-inch length limit is in effect for Big Spirit, West Okoboji, East Okoboji, Upper Gar, Lower Gar and Minnewashta Lakes.



Ron Johnson



## LARGEMOUTH BASS

One of the hottest largemouth bass fisheries in Iowa is Browns Lake near Salix. Surveys conducted during 1985 showed a large population of 12- to 18-inch bass, as well as some lunkers in the five-pound range. Blue Lake, an oxbow lake near Onawa, has also been producing some great bass fishing although extensive vegetation dictates the use of weedless spoons and shallow running lures. The bass population in Beeds Lake (Franklin Co.) has developed nicely since the 1982 renovation. Briggs Wood and Little Wall Lake, both in Hamilton County, also support desirable bass populations, as does Lake Pahoja in Lyon County. Surveys conducted during 1985 indicated 18 percent of the bass population in Lake Pahoja was larger than 14". Fishermen should concentrate on the fish attractors installed in Little Wall Lake and the weed line in Briggs Wood. In all cases, spinner baits and minnow-imitating lures are proven producers.

## BLUEGILL

One of the newest bluegill hot-spots in Iowa is Snyder Bend Lake near Salix in Woodbury County. Surveys conducted during 1985 revealed large numbers of 6- to 9-inch bluegill in this oxbow lake and judging from the fishing which occurred this past winter, fishermen found these fish ready and willing to bite. Anglers will find bluegills during late May and early June when they are spawning near the emergent vegetation. A small, 1/64 ounce black or brown leadhead will be tops for big gills at this time of year. Badger Lake (Webster Co.) has a good population of 6- to 8-inch bluegill as does Beeds Lake, Upper and Lower Pine (Hardin Co.), West Okoboji and Lake Pahoja. Crawford Creek in Ida County still ranks as one of the most consistent bluegill producing lakes in northwest Iowa. Vacationers to the Iowa Great Lakes Region should keep in mind that the waters of West Okoboji take a little longer to warm up and, therefore, good bluegill fishing occurs a little later at this lake.

## CRAPPIE

The best crappie fishing will occur at Center Lake (Dickinson Co.),

Crawford Creek and Briggs Wood. Briggs Wood supports excellent numbers of 8- to 10-inch crappie which were produced in 1983. Crawford Creek has been a real hotspot during the past two years and plenty of fish will be available this spring. Anglers should concentrate their effort near partially submerged trees on the north end or around the island area at Center Lake. Badger Lake in Webster County should not be overlooked during 1986. Fish for these 8-inch fish in the timbered area on the north side of the lake during May and June.

## UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

Excellent *yellow bass* fishing is available in North Twin Lake in Calhoun County. These scrappy fighters are very abundant in this lake and readily take nightcrawlers or small yellow or white leadheads fished near the bottom on a windswept shore. Fish run from 7- to 10-inches, are common and are excellent table fare.

*White bass* enthusiasts should look to Storm Lake and East Okoboji. Fish will range from 10- to 16-inches and will be most active during the spring and fall periods. A jig and minnow or a Mepps spinner, fished over a sand bottom, will provide plenty of action.

The *freshwater drum* is available in large numbers in West and East Okoboji. In fact, it is difficult to fish a jig in these lakes and not hook a "sheepshead". A piece of crawdad on the jig virtually ensures success. These fish are delicious when the dark meat is cut away and the firm white flesh is boiled, chilled and served with a shrimp sauce.

*Tiger muskie* (hybrid cross between northern pike and muskellunge) are available in Storm Lake, Black Hawk and North Twin. These lakes contain fish from 32- to 38-inches in length and should provide some angling excitement for the big-fish enthusiast.

When it comes to fishing, the glacial lakes and rich prairie streams of northwest Iowa offer variety, quality and quantity. Lots of friendly people are rightly proud of the resources and resource management in this part of Iowa and they invite others to experience angling at its best. Share with them a quality outdoor experience.

# Northeast

By Dave Moeller

District Fisheries Supervisor

## TROUT

Prospects for trout fishing in 1986 appear excellent. Substantial fall rains have recharged the underground aquifers and springs that create the coldwater streams and spring flows are expected to be good. Runoff from the heavy snow cover may initially cause some turbid water



Roger Sparks

conditions, however the trout streams clear up quite rapidly, usually within a day or two.

The action gets into full swing the first of April when stocking of half-pound rainbow and brown trout in the 48 catchable trout streams begins. Over 325,000 trout will be distributed in these streams in 1986. To provide anglers with a choice of the trout species they prefer, some streams will be stocked solely with rainbow trout, others only with browns, while the remainder will receive a combination of the two. A few lucky anglers will also hook into one of the 400 lunker-size browns and rainbows ranging from three to over 15 pounds that will be scattered in these streams.

All of the catchable streams are stocked through October. Late fall stockings have proved popular with anglers and 13 catchable streams will also be stocked during November. Some of the better streams include Sny Magill, Bloody Run, French, Coldwater, Waterloo, North and South Bear, Grannis, Swiss Valley, Turkey River, Bailey's Ford, and Richmond Springs.



Trout enthusiasts who prefer remote, lightly-fished streams and the opportunity of hooking a stream-reared lunker brown trout, should seek out the special regulation streams. Portions of French Creek, Spring Branch, and Bloody Run contain good numbers of browns up to seven pounds. Fishing on these posted stream sections is with artificial lures only. Brown trout under 14 inches must be released.

There are no new trout fishing regulations for 1986, however, one that went into effect in 1985 bears repeating. Resident anglers under 16 years of age and non-residents under 14 years must possess a valid trout stamp to possess trout, *or*, they must fish for trout with a licensed adult who possesses a valid trout stamp and limit their combined daily catch to five trout and ten in possession.

The "Iowa Trout Fishing Guide" is a free brochure, available from the Commission and outlets where trout stamps are sold, that describes trout fishing opportunities.

## CHANNEL CATFISH

Periodic surveys on the large, inland rivers continue to show very high channel catfish populations. Most run between one and three pounds but cats exceeding six pounds are not uncommon. Some of the better streams include the Maquoketa River in Delaware, Jones, and Jackson Counties; the Wapsipicon River in Buchanan County; the Cedar River in Black Hawk, Bremer, Chickasaw, and Floyd Counties; the Shell Rock River in Butler County; and the Upper Iowa River below the Lower Dam in Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties. A canoe is a useful tool in fishing these inland rivers. It gets the angler to many more catfish hotspots and enables him or her to more effectively fish these catfish holes.

Some fine catfishing is available at Volga Lake (Fayette Co.), Greenbelt Lake (Black Hawk Co.), Meyers Lake (Black Hawk Co.), Casey Lake (Tama Co.), George Wyth (Black Hawk Co.) Lake Meyer (Winneshiek Co.) and Lake Hendricks (Howard Co.).

The Mississippi River also contains a fair population of channel catfish. The chances of catching a large flathead catfish are also good here.

## SMALLMOUTH BASS

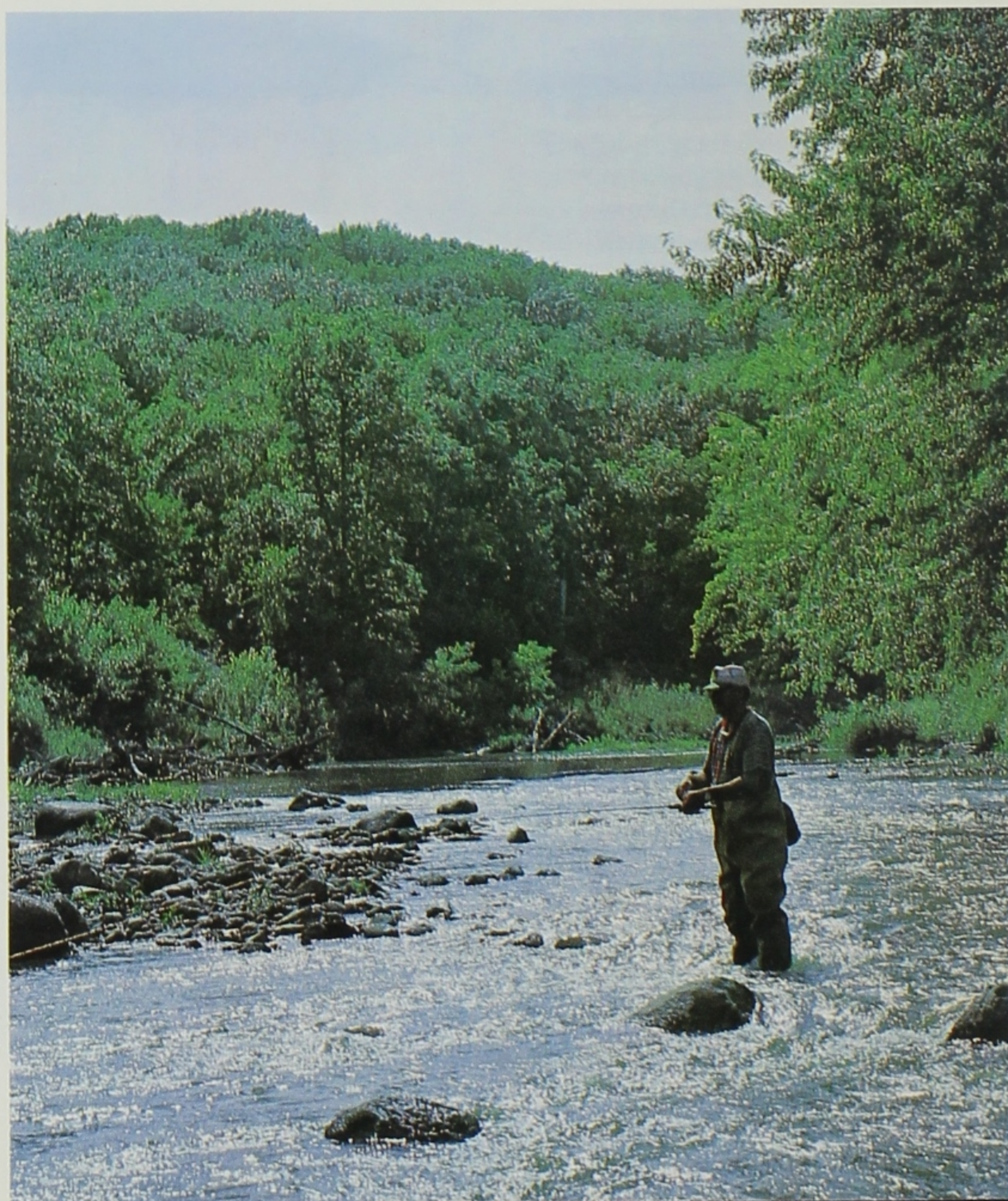
The smallmouth bass provides some of the most exciting fishing activity most anglers ever experience. Smallies love to attack lures, and when hooked, put on an aerial display matched by no other fish in Iowa. These sporty, hard-fighting fish are found in all the major inland rivers as well as the Mississippi River. The key to successful smallmouth bass fishing is in locating good habitat — stream sections containing gravel, rocks, and boulders.

Because the smallmouth is so aggressive and easy to catch, populations were becoming depleted due to excessive angler harvest. The establishment of a 12-inch minimum size limit on all interior streams and border rivers (except the Mississippi River bordering Wisconsin) several years ago has led to a resurgence in smallmouth bass populations. The majority of legal-size fish caught run between one and 2½ pounds, however, a few smallmouths up to 4½ pounds are caught annually.

Some of the better stream sections include the Cedar River from Otranto to St. Ansgar and from Mitchell to Floyd, the Upper Iowa River from Lime Springs to Kendallville and from Decorah to Highway 76, the Yellow River below Volney, the Volga River below Fayette, and the Maquoketa River below Delhi. Here again, a canoe allows the angler to go to the fish. Late summer and early fall is a particularly good time for smallmouth fishing as the streams are stable and clear.

## WALLEYE AND SAUGER

Walleye and sauger fishing in northeast Iowa means river fishing. It also means lots of fish including some real trophy-sized lunkers. The Mississippi River is the main walleye producer, however, several inland rivers will produce some fine stringers also. What the inland rivers lack in numbers, they make up in size of fish. While the majority of walleye run between two and five pounds, individual fish up to 12 pounds come



Ken Formanek



out of each of these rivers. The better ones are the Cedar River in Black Hawk, Bremer, Chickasaw, and Floyd Counties; the Shell Rock River in Butler, Bremer, and Floyd Counties; the West Fork Cedar River in Butler County; and the Wapsipinicon River in Buchanan County. The smaller sauger is found only in the Mississippi River, however, populations there are very strong. The majority of the sauger caught range from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to two pounds with occasional fish up to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pounds.

The best opportunity for a trophy-sized walleye or sauger is in the early spring just after ice-out. Adult walleye and sauger congregate in large numbers in the tailwaters below dams prior to spawning. Working a bait or lure right on the bottom is important. Jigs, tipped with a minnow, sonars, and lead-head twister tails work well. From early summer to fall, the walleye frequently hang out on the rock wing dams, riprap areas, and other natural rocky substrates. Crank baits, minnows on a three-way rig, twister tails, and nite-crawlers bounced right on the rocks will generally do the trick. The late fall and winter months again find the walleye and sauger in the tailwater areas.

## LARGEMOUTH BASS

The "Ole Miss" is known for its large number of largemouths, however, fish above four pounds are rare. Some of the better Mississippi River backwaters include the Lansing Bottoms in Pool 9; Harpers Slough, Sny Magill Bottoms, and the Bagley Bottoms in Pool 10; and Bertrum Lake and McCartney Lake in Pool 11. Anglers are reminded that there is a 12-inch minimum-length limit on all black bass (largemouth and smallmouth) on the Iowa-Illinois boundary waters. Some of these better bass backwaters include Tippy's, Sunfish, and Frentress Lakes in Pool 12; Densmore and Blake's Lakes in the Green Island Area, Browns Lake and the Sabula Bottoms in Pool 13; and Joyce's Slough and the lakes and sloughs in the Rock Creek area in Pool 14.

Casey Lake, Meyers Lake, Sweet Marsh (Bremer Co.), and Lake Hendricks will produce some of the better

catches in 1986. Casey Lake has a good number of bass in the 17- to 18-inch range. Meyer Lake is a relatively new fishery with the bass approaching 14 inches this year. Lake Hendricks has an excellent population of bass up to 16 inches with several fish topping the four pound mark. George Wyth Lake annually yields a few bass over seven pounds to lucky anglers. Two small lakes worth a try are Wilson Grove (Bremer Co.) and Airport Lake (Chickasaw Co.).

The best bass fishing occurs in May and early June when water temperature is between 55 and 62°F. This is the pre-spawn period when the bass are working the shallow waters and are actively feeding. Another prime period is in September and October when the water cools down below 68°F and the bass again are using shallow water habitats.

## BLUEGILL

Northeast Iowans catch more bluegill than any other species of fish. The Mississippi River backwaters are a major bluegill producer. Sweet Marsh, Meyers Lake, George Wyth Lake and Lake Meyer will also produce some fine catches of bluegills. Fishing for gills during the spawning season means big fish and lots of them. These spawners in May or June will be in shallow bays and backwaters, particularly near beds of vegetation. Drift fishing is an excellent way of locating gills on the inland lakes during the summer months. On the Mississippi, summer bluegills congregate along the edges of weed beds, around submerged trees and on the wing dams when the river flows are low.

## CRAPPIE

The Mississippi River contains the only major crappie population in northeast Iowa, however, their size is excellent, running between 9 and 11 inches. The first major crappie fishing period begins in May. Small minnows and jigs fished in fallen trees and brush piles will fill many fish baskets with slab-sided crappies. October and November is another prime time when the water cools and the crappie school en masse. The deeper, quiet-water snags, sub-

merged trees and eddies below the wing dams are best bets.

## NORTHERN PIKE

Although northern populations are not widespread, three rivers contain fairly good populations. The Mississippi River north of Dubuque contains a large number of northern pike in the six- to eight-pound range, with a few up to twelve pounds. The Wapsipinicon River in Buchanan, Black Hawk, and Bremer Counties contains large numbers of small northern pike with a few fish exceeding eight pounds. The Cedar River in Black Hawk and Bremer Counties contains a small population of northern pike, however, the average size of the fish is very good. Individual fish up to 18 pounds are not uncommon.

Still-fishing with large chubs in the Mississippi River backwaters during the hottest part of summer is particularly effective. Areas where coldwater streams enter the Mississippi also hold concentrations of northerns during the hot months.

## OTHER FISH

*Freshwater drum*, also known as sheephead, provide a lot of angling activity on the Mississippi River. Their schooling activity, large size, and strong fighting ability combine to provide a lot of angling excitement. Anglers fish for them along the main channel borders, dam spillways, wing dams and tailwater areas. Nightcrawlers, crayfish tails, and small jigs work well. Their fillets are boneless, firm and taste good.

*White bass* anglers head for the Mississippi River from July through October to pursue schools of the hard-hitting and sporty striper. Look for them on the wing dams, spillway areas, and other riprap along flowing water. When actively feeding, stripers will attack nearly lures ranging from small jigs to large crank baits.

A new fish may soon be coming onto the scene on the Mississippi River. Nearly 200,000 *wipers* have been stocked in Pool 14 in the last two years. The wiper is a hybrid ocean striped bass and white bass. As is true with most hybrids, they grow fast and should get as large as ten pounds.



# WARDEN'S DIARY

By Jerry Hoilien

"How'd you get a good cushy job like yours, warden? Huntin' and fishin' — man it must be nice riding around in a boat all day!"

The man was trying to be funny but it was beginning to get under my skin. I thought to myself, I haven't wet a line this year — I've been too busy chasing clowns like him, who don't have fishing licenses with them.

"I bought it at the sports shop in town," he grumbled. "You can check, or I guess I could go get it if you really want me to!"

I explained to him it was a violation not to carry his license while fishing and I could give him a ticket for failure to produce. That got his attention, "I'll go to shore and get it. Our truck is over there by the Marina." All this time his partner was reassuring me they both had licenses. I said, "Okay, I'll wait at the Marina and you go get it."

I watched them get out of their boat at the bank, but only one left. The guy without his license stayed in the boat. When I inquired as to why he didn't go after his own billfold, he replied, "I live at his house and he'll be right back. He knows right where it is."

This sounded awfully fishy. Most men will get their own things. About that time a deputy Sheriff drove up to say hello and find out how the fish were biting. I asked him for a ride uptown. Checking the sports shop's license book, sure enough the last license was made out to my forgetful

friend and the dates didn't follow the proper order of things. I told the salesgirl I would be back to talk to her. She was looking a little sheepish about then.

Arriving back at the river bank, I noticed the subject's vehicle held up at the railroad crossing, so by walking, I got back there before he did. I didn't say a word.

When he drove up he grinned and handed his partner a billfold, from which he produced his newly backdated license.

"Is this your signature?" I asked.

"I was drunk the other day when I bought it so it doesn't look so good, but sure, I signed it," he replied.

"That's required isn't it?"

"Yes it is and you might tell your buddy here how to spell your name. Now you both can talk to the judge!" I couldn't help a little smile creeping up.

The judge took a rather dim view of that type of activity and fined them both, just to make a sound impression on them. It was a high-priced trip as it turned out. The young salesgirl who let him backdate the license should have gone the same route, but I let her off with a stern lecture from the ol' warden.

You know — I think I'll take a couple of hours off this evening and go fishing... got to let that deputy in on a couple of good spots.

## WILD MUSHROOM SOUP

3 beef cubes dissolved in three cups of hot water (then cooled)  
6 cups diced mushrooms (fingertip size)  
1 medium onion diced  
9 tablespoons flour  
9 cups of milk  
12 tablespoons butter  
salt and pepper to taste

Sauté mushrooms and onions in butter for ten minutes, stir in flour, add mushrooms and broth to heated milk.

Will serve four hungry fishermen and one cook, depending on number of snitchers.

Gary Soper, a good friend and highway patrolman came up this one.

# CALENDAR

## April 1986

April 10	Astronomy Program 8 p.m.	West Bend Country Club Palo Alto Co. (712) 837-4866
April 12	Hartman Investigations	Hartman Reserve Nature Center Black Hawk Co. (319) 277-2187
April 12	Spring Hawk Migration Watch 6:45 a.m.	Meet at Kossuth Co. Courthouse (515) 295-2138
April 12	Tour of Maple Creek Wildlife Area 9 a.m.	Wright Co. (515) 532-3185
April 12	"Seasons of a Woodland" Hike 1 p.m.	Basswood Recreation Area Palo Alto Co. (712) 837-4866
April 12	In Search of the Eastern Bluebird	Meet at Cass Co. Courthouse (712) 243-3542
April 13	Exotic Iowa: The Loess Hills Jean Prior 2 p.m.	Indian Creek Nature Center Cedar Rapids (319) 362-0664
April 13	Twilight Hike 6:45 p.m.	Stimes Woods Worth Co. (515) 324-1524
April 13	Biking Bohemian Style	Hartman Reserve Nature Center Black Hawk Co. (319) 277-2187
April 13	Bird Outing	Runnels Game Area Warren Co. (515) 961-6169
April 19	Woodcock Watch 6:30 p.m.	Conservation Center Warren Co. (515) 961-6169
April 19	Spring Wildflower Hike 1 p.m.	Buzzard Ridge Wildlife Area Jackson Co. (319) 652-3783
April 19 & 20	Volkswalk, 5K & 10K	Jester Park Polk Co. (515) 999-2559
April 20	Woodcock Watch	Swiss Valley Nature Preserve (319) 556-6745
April 24	Green Grass Moon Walk Woodcock Watch	Grammer Grove Marshall Co. (515) 752-3150
April 24	Woodcock Watch	Syracuse Wildlife Area Clinton Co. (319) 847-7202
April 24	Frog Program 7 p.m.	Palo Alto Co. (712) 837-4866
April 25	Arbor Day	
April 26	"Arbor Day Plus One" planting, identifying & pruning trees	Indian Creek Nature Center Cedar Rapids (319) 362-0664
April 26	Arbor Day Field Day	Lake Cornelia Park (515) 532-3185
April 26	Fishing Clinic 1 p.m.	Cold Springs State Park Cass Co. (712) 243-3542
April 26	Trees, Trees, Trees	Hartman Reserve Nature Center Black Hawk Co. (319) 277-2187
April 26	Spring Prairie Walk 1 p.m.	Hamilton Prairie Jackson Co. (319) 652-3783
April 26	Wildflower Ramble	Camp Miss-Elk-Ton Clinton Co. (319) 847-7202
April 26	Plant-A-Tree 1:30 p.m.	Swan Lake State Park Carroll Co. (712) 792-4614
April 27	Wall to Wall Warblers	Hartman Reserve Nature Center Black Hawk Co. (319) 277-2187
April 27	Wildflower Walks	Claybanks, 2 p.m. Cerro Gordo Co. (515) 423-5309
Annett Woods, 1 p.m.	Pit Pellett Preserve (must register)	Lake Meyer Nature Center Winnebago Co. (319) 534-7145
Warren Co. (515) 961-6169	Cass Co. (712) 243-3542	
Swiss Valley Nature Preserve, 2 p.m.	Dickson Timber 1:30 p.m.	
Dubuque Co. (319) 556-6745	Carroll Co. (712) 792-4614	





# Conservation Update

## PARK EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Don Carrier, park ranger at Bellevue was presented a plaque and a Ducks Unlimited "Squaw Creek" parka donated by Bob Allen Company after being named State Parks Employee of the Year.

Don's career started in April, 1963 at Wildcat Den State Park. During these 23 years, he has seen 11 of his park attendants promoted to rangers, he has managed five state parks, he has obtained an A. A.

Degree in Law Enforcement and is a respected community leader.

Don's most recent projects earned his recognition as "Commission Employee of the Month" for April 1985. The South Bluff Nature Center at Bellevue has become an excellent example of facility and site development that maximizes the visitor experience. The planning and coordination of volunteers and donations were a major effort. The results are both exciting and functional for the visitors.

Adjacent to the nature center is the theme garden, featured in the March issue. This was a very complex endeavor by Don and a volunteer to match species of flowers to the symbiotic needs of many different species of butterflies.

## TROUT STOCKING TO BEGIN

The first spring stocking of catchable-size trout is scheduled to begin April 1 in northeast Iowa. According to Iowa Conservation Commission fisheries officials, eight- to ten-inch rainbow and brown trout will be stocked in stream sections where road and field access conditions permit. Access for the hatchery trucks may be limited due to poor road conditions; therefore, anglers may want to contact the nearest trout hatchery.

For 24-hour trout stocking and stream condition information, anglers may call the following trout hatchery numbers: Manchester Trout Hatchery, Manchester, 319/927-5736; Decorah Trout Hatchery, Decorah, 319/382-3315; Big Springs Trout Hatchery, Elkader, 319/245-1699.

## Length Limits for Bass on More Lakes

Minimum-length limits for largemouth bass have been placed on several additional lakes according to the Iowa Conservation Commission. More than 90 lakes in Iowa now have bass length limits. Signs around the lakes warn anglers they must immediately return to the water all bass caught under the minimum length.

The following lakes have been added to the 14-inch minimum-length limit: Greenfield Lake in Adair County; Little River Lake in Decatur County; DeSoto Bend in Harrison County; Ankeny Lake in Polk County; Seymour Lake in Wayne County; and Snyder Bend in Woodbury County.

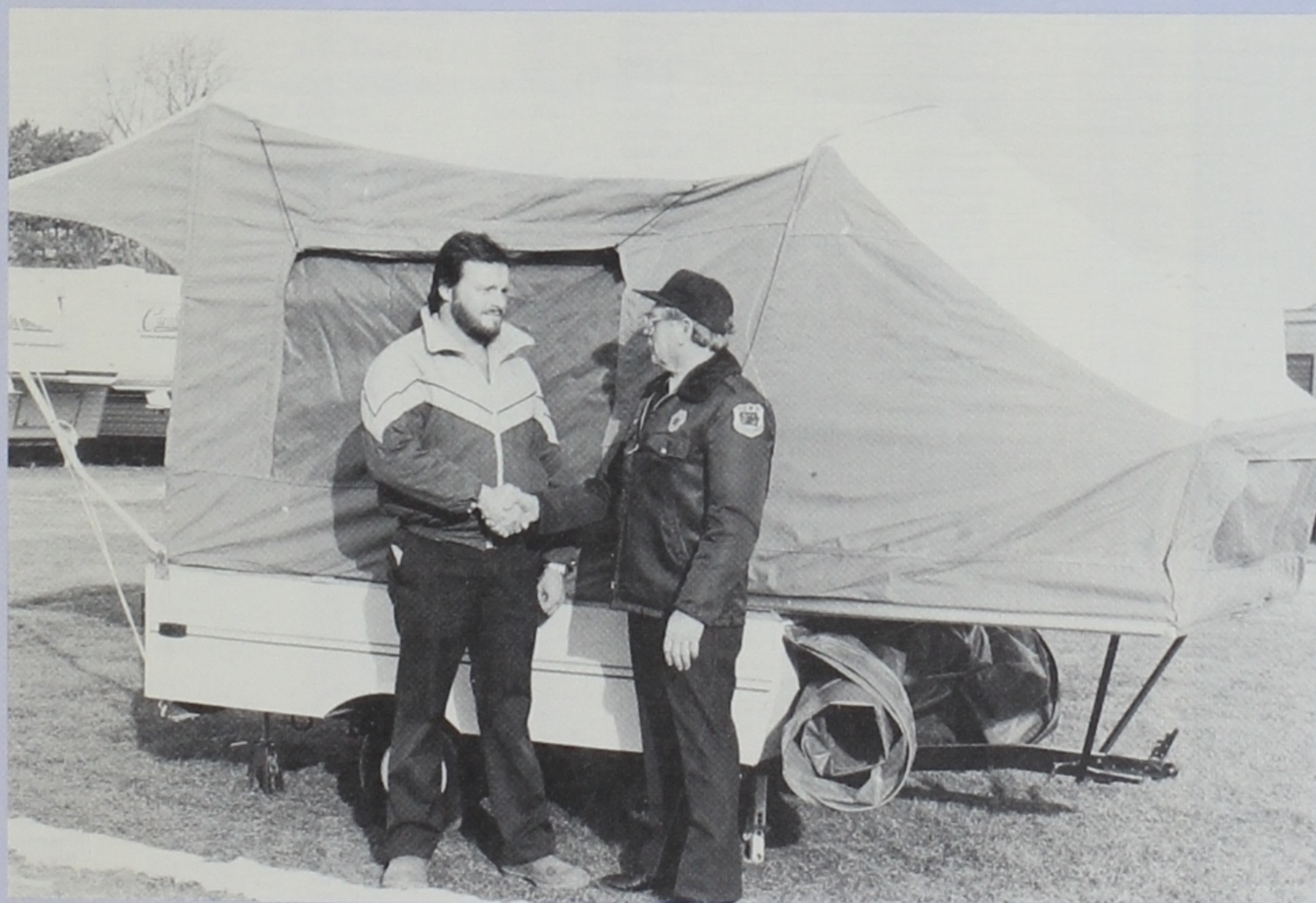
An 18-inch minimum-length limit for bass has been placed on Green Valley Lake in Union County. Commission fisheries officials said increasing the length limit should create a trophy bass fishery and help control carp and small bullhead numbers. The larger bass could also keep populations of stunted bluegills and crappies in check, resulting in better growth of these species in the lake.

## FISHING REPORT...

call 515-281-3307

(April 9-Sept. 1)

Updated  
each Wednesday  
morning.



Maurice Herold of Herold Trailer Sales, Indianola shakes hands with Don Pudwill, park ranger for Lake Ahquabi. Herold Trailer Sales, along with the Coleman Company has donated the camper, pictured above, to be given away by the Conservation Commission. Those interested may register for the drawing August 14-24 at the 1986 Iowa State Fair, State Parks Exhibit, Conservation Building.



## Park User Permit Required

People using state parks *are required* to have a park user permit. Anyone stopping a motorized vehicle of any kind must have a sticker on the vehicle if they use any facilities. User fees won't be required of visitors who drive through without stopping.

Permits cost \$10 for an annual permit or \$2 for a daily permit.

### EXEMPTIONS

1) All school vehicles are exempt from the user fee permit requirement when transporting students and faculty on official school business.

2) Motor vehicles being towed by or carried in or on another motor vehicle bearing a permit are exempt from the permit requirement (such as a car towed by motor home, mopeds carried by pickup) so long as they remain attached and are not parked separately.

3) Vehicles with handicapped plates, wheelchair symbol decal or rearview mirror tag are exempt.

### FREE PERMITS

Free park user permits may be issued to qualifying Iowans in the county in which the applicant resides.

Persons requesting the free permit must present one of the following items to the county recorder:

1) A currently valid medical assistance identification card;

2) A written declaration stating that the person is receiving food stamps and a signed release authorizing the Department of Human Services to confirm his or her eligibility; or

3) Proof (valid driver's license or nonoperator's ID card) of age 65 or over.

The person must also provide a registration certificate for his or her motor vehicle, verification that a corporate-owned vehicle is assigned to the applicant for personal use, or certification that a vehicle owned by a relative provides the applicant's primary source of transportation.

# 1985 BIG FISH AWARDS

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address	Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
<b>* New State Record</b>							
<b>BASS, LARGE MOUTH (Minimum — 7 lb.)</b>							
9 lb. 12 oz.	Marion Co. Pond	4-11	Rex Vance	4 lb. 8 oz.	Maquoketa River	1-6	Kenneth DeMoss
	Marion County		Tracy		Delaware County		Earlville
9 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond	3-24	Mike Lovett	4 lb. 8 oz.	Wapsipinicon River	6-12	Elsworth Mueller
	Page County		Clarinda		Black Hawk County		Dewar
9 lb.	Farm Pond	7-21	Duane Bushman	4 lb. 7 oz.	West Okoboji	8-25	Randy Benz
	Harrison County		Council Bluffs		Dickinson County		Melvin
8 lb. 12 oz.	Lake Rathbun	4-20	Mark Kropf	4 lb. 7 oz.	West Okoboji	2-24	Jim Bockman
	Lucas County		Newton		Dickinson County		Milford
8 lb. 7 oz.	George Wyth	4-20	Gary Feldpouch	4 lb. 6 oz.	West Okoboji	8-30	Opal Frazier
	Black Hawk County		Waterloo		Dickinson County		Sioux City
8 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond	3-15	John Bowen	4 lb. 4 oz.	Big Spirit Lake	6-27	Kelly Cook
	Story County		Maxwell		Clay County		Spencer
8 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond	5-5	Jay Sweet	4 lb. 4 oz.	Big Spirit Lake	6-27	Kelly Cook
	Union County		Creston		Clay County		Spencer
8 lb.	Farm Pond	3-15	Dave Byrket Jr.	4 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji	9-7	Richard Manthey
	Madison County		Des Moines		Dickinson County		Bellevue
8 lb.	Lake of the Hills	3-27	Warren Hesse	4 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji	2-6	Dave Sander
	Scott County		Davenport		Dickinson County		Milford
8 lb.	Farm Pond	9-2	Chad Moody	4 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji	10-5	Joyce Taylor
	Fremont County		Northboro		Dickinson County		Sioux City
8 lb.	Farm Pond	4-20	Ken Sindelar	4 lb. 2 oz.	Big Creek	5-18	Terry Heaton
	Mills County		Omaha, NE		Polk County		Pleasant Hill
7 lb. 15 oz.	Farm Pond	4-21	Joseph Barone	4 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji	2-22	Don Sanders
	Mills County		Omaha, NE		Dickinson County		Arnolds Park
7 lb. 14 oz.	Crystal Lake	7-31	John Denger	4 lb. 2 oz.	Big Spirit Lake	7-21	Gary Stillee
	Clinton County		Davenport		Dickinson County		Cherokee
7 lb. 11 oz.	Gravel Pit	10-29	Gary Smith	4 lb. 1 oz.	Maquoketa	5-5	Carey Atkinson
	Monona County		Sioux City		Delaware County		Manchester
7 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond	6-22	Ronnie Birdsall	4 lb.	West Okoboji	10-3	John Osler
	Monona County		Mondamin		Dickinson County		Council Bluffs
7 lb. 8 oz.	Municipal Park	3-24	Brandon Carpenter	4 lb.	West Okoboji	7-28	Tom Shelly
	Plymouth County		LeMars		Dickinson County		Fort Dodge
7 lb. 8 oz.	Sand Pit	6-16	Steven LaRue	<b>BASS, WHITE (Minimum — 2 1/2 lbs.)</b>			
	Muscatine County		Muscatine	3 lb.	Big Spirit	5-17	Liz Matuska
7 lb. 8 oz.	Private	3-18	Jeff Rowland		Dickinson County		Jackson
7 lb. 7 oz.	Clermont Sandpit	10-27	Jay Heins	2 lb. 11 oz.	Whitebreast Creek	8-3	Roger DeMoss
	Clayton County		Postville		Marion County		Knoxville
7 lb. 7 oz.	Lake Anita	3-20	Paul Holzworth	2 lb. 11 oz.	Sand Pit	3-21	George Paulson
	Cass County		Des Moines		Allamakee County		Harpers Ferry
7 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond	5-5	James Clime	<b>BASS, WIPER (Minimum — 4 lbs.)</b>			
	Lucas County		Oelwein	*8 lb. 3 oz.	Red Rock / DM River	10-30	David Sparks
7 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond	9-8	Norman Albers		Marion County		Indianola
	Ida County		Battle Creek	8 lb. 2 oz.	Des Moines River	5-6	Arnold Lyle Jr.
7 lb. 5 oz.	Ellis	4-27	Gary Gilbert		Polk County		Des Moines
	Lucas County		Des Moines	8 lb.	Des Moines River	10-1	Emery Matteson
7 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond	4-27	Jeff Herman		Polk County		Des Moines
	Benton County		Belle Plaine	<b>BASS, YELLOW (Minimum — 3 1/4 lbs.)</b>			
7 lb. 4 oz.	Rathbun	5-20	John Atkinson	0 lb. 13 oz.	Sand Pit	3-8	Vince Fusco
	Appanoose County		Muscatine		Muscatine County		Davenport
7 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond	3-24	Kenneth Jones	<b>BLUEGILL (Minimum — 1 lb.)</b>			
	Guthrie County		Stuart	2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond	5-20	Steve Cummings
7 lb. 4 oz.	Red Rock Lake	6-30	Arlie VanderHoek		Guthrie County		Adair
	Marion County		Pella	2 lb.	East Spirit Lake	5-17	Kris Krie
7 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond	3-18	Bruce Tysor		Dickinson County		Spirit Lake
	Fremont County		Hamburg	2 lb.	Farm Pond	3-3	Tom Shehan
7 lb. 2 oz.	Robert's Creek	7-25	Arlie VanderHoek		Monroe County		Albia
	Marion County		Pella	1 lb. 14 oz.	Farm Pond	5-12	Will Knoll
7 lb.	Arrowhead	8-31	Tom Hoogestraat		Page County		Clarinda
	Sac County		Glenwood	1 lb. 13 oz.	Farm Pond	4-19	Clarence Howe
7 lb.	Rock Bluff Quarry	4-15	Donald Prox		Warren County		Knoxville
	Wapello County		Ottumwa	1 lb. 10 oz.	Farm Pond	3-30	Jeremy Owen
<b>BASS, OCEAN STRIPED (Minimum — 5 lbs.)</b>							
— No entries							
<b>BASS, ROCK (Minimum — 1 lb.)</b>							
1 lb. 3 oz.	Wapsipinicon River	4-19	Randy Bohr	1 lb. 9 oz.	Farm Pond	4-21	James Olson
	Bremer County		Calmar		Adair County		Greenfield
<b>BASS, SMALL MOUTH (Minimum — 4 lbs.)</b>							
5 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji	4-20	Dean Taylor	1 lb. 9 oz.	Farm Pond	5-5	Roger Stacy
	Dickinson County		Sioux City		Mahaska County		Altoona
5 lb. 8 oz.	Quarry Pond	10-5	Gary Jochimsen	1 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond	7-28	Jerry Koons
	Webster County		Fort Dodge		Clayton County		Elkader
5 lb. 6 oz.	West Okoboji	10-3	Dean Taylor	1 lb. 8 oz.	Big Spirit	5-28	Todd Kramer
	Dickinson County		Sioux City		Dickinson County		Lone Rock
5 lb. 5 oz.	Wapsie River	5-26	Kelly Powrie	1 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond	4-28	L. J. Trumm
	Linn County		Cedar Rapids		Jones County		Cascade
5 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji	10-5	Dean Taylor	1 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond	4-28	Tom Cooper
	Dickinson County		Sioux City		Jones County		Monticello
5 lb.	West Okoboji	5-8	Christopher Furman	1 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond	6-1	Richard Kroupa
	Dickinson County		Spirit Lake		Cass County		Atlantic
4 lb. 14 oz.	Mississippi River	11-9	Jerry Dunklee	1 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond	4-28	Rachel Brink
	Clayton County		Fayette		Crawford County		Dow City
4 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji	9-21	Bill Fitzgerald	1 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond	5-15	Jeff Thomann
	Dickinson County		Milford		Washington County		Ainsworth
4 lb. 12 oz.	Spirit Lake	9-28	Dean Taylor	1 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond	4-16	Jane Andrew
	Dickinson County		Sioux City		Page County		Clarinda
4 lb. 9 oz.	West Okoboji	4-20	Dean Taylor	1 lb. 5 oz.	Gravel Pit	4-27	Kenneth Frank
	Dickinson County		Sioux City		Sac County		Carroll
				1 lb. 5 oz.	Volga Lake	6-21	Tony Jensen
					Fayette County		Randallia



# Buy Your Park User Fee Permit By Mail

## Simple as 1. 2. 3.

1. Fill out name and address blank on reverse side of this tab. (ONE ADDRESS ONLY. Print legibly as this will be our return address to you.)
2. Insert \$10 — check or money order only, payable to Iowa Conservation Commission — for each park permit along with this tab containing the name and address where the permit(s) will be sent.
3. Drop the envelope in the mail. Your permit(s) will arrive in a few weeks. Your postage is already paid for.

For more information on the park user fee permit, read the article at left.

Sorry, we cannot issue free permits by mail.

Montgomery County				Omaha, NE			
<b>BOWFIN</b> (Minimum — 5 lbs.)				32 lb.			
*10 lb. 6 oz.	Mississippi River	4-27		Darol Snyder	30 lb.		
7 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River	6-6		Stephen Bromley	29 lb.		
6 lb. 11 oz.	Mississippi River	5-12		Tom Doering Jr.	23 lb. 12 oz.		
	Jackson County			Pleasant Valley			
<b>BUFFALO</b> (Minimum — 20 lbs.)				23 lb.			
32 lb. 1 oz.	Spirit Lake	5-1		Randy Roede	22 lb. 12 oz.		
28 lb.	Dickinson County			Sibley			
21 lb. 5 oz.	Spirit Lake	5-1		John Cox	22 lb. 8 oz.		
	Dickinson County			Spirit Lake			
	Spirit Lake	5-1		Terry Cox	21 lb. 4 oz.		
	Dickinson County			Spirit Lake			
					20 lb. 6 oz.		
<b>BULLHEAD</b> (Minimum — 2 1/2 lbs.)				CRAPPIE (Minimum — 2 lbs.)			
3 lb. 8 oz.	Carney's Ford	5-9		Harvey Weatherman Jr.	4 lb. 5 oz.		
	Polk County			Cambridge			
3 lb. 5 oz.	Mississippi River	4-11		Stan Mielke	3 lb. 6 oz.		
	Allamakee County			Monona			
3 lb.	Farm Pond	6-17		David Govig	3 lb. 4 oz.		
	Montgomery County			Red Oak			
2 lb. 14 oz.	Farm Pond	5-4		D. W. Eighthmy	3 lb. 3 oz.		
	Taylor County			Conway			
2 lb. 12 oz.	Farm Pond	6-17		David Govig	2 lb. 13 oz.		
	Montgomery County			Red Oak			
2 lb. 10 oz.	Farm Pond	8-11		Michael Holzworth	2 lb. 12 oz.		
	Warren County			Des Moines			
2 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond	5-4		David Govig	2 lb. 12 oz.		
	Montgomery County			Red Oak			
2 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond	5-		Rusty Wilke	2 lb. 9 oz.		
	Sac County			Odebolt			
<b>CARP</b> (Minimum — 25 lbs.)				2 lb. 8 oz.			
37 lb.	Big Creek	10-3		Kirk Olsen	2 lb. 8 oz.		
	Polk County			Des Moines			
34 lb. 8 oz.	Spirit Lake	4-19		Peg Hampie	2 lb. 8 oz.		
	Dickinson County			Lake City			

Ind Address	Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address			
vid Mueller Dubuque	2 lb. 8 oz.	Hickory Grove Story County	5-6	Luther Quam Ames			
borah Prior Maquoketa	2 lb. 7 oz.	White Breast Creek Marion County	5-1	Robert Bingham Melcher			
John Cox Spirit Lake	2 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond Poweshiek County	5-18	Jason Roudabush Brooklyn			
ekerjuergen West Point	2 lb. 5 oz.	Lake Morris Lucus County	8-19	Roberta Baker Chariton			
Terry Cox Spirit Lake	2 lb. 5 oz.	Cedar River Mitchell County	9-1	Matt Gebel New Hampton			
	2 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Davis County	6-28	Jim Mernka Ottumwa			
	2 lb. 5 oz.	Sand Pit Warren County	7-2	Monty Collins Swan			
Leon Wendt Glenwood	2 lb. 4 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-13	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines			
hris Carlson Ankeny	2 lb. 4 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	5-1	Martha Holzworth Des Moines			
Vanderhoof Red Oak	2 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-6	Derrick Livingston Guttenberg			
eo Halligan Hudson	2 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Tama County	5-21	Jo Otta Garwin			
ames Evans Omaha, NE	2 lb. 3 oz.	Iowa County Lake Iowa County	1-27	Carmen Fleming Cedar Rapids			
e Railsback edar Rapids	2 lb. 3 oz.	Cedar River Linn County	4-13	Dennis Jobe Hiawatha			
e Blanchard Osceola	2 lb. 3 oz.	Red Haw Lucas County	10-17	F. N. Wilhite Chariton			
dwin Harris Corning	2 lb. 2 oz.	Raccoon River Dallas County	5-17	Nathan Bailey Waukee			
ob Torrence Red Oak	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-7	Heather Farmer Des Moines			
Gen Herring Earlham	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	6-14	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines			
ug Rowland Chariton	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	6-18	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines			
Harry Hiner Neola	2 lb. 2 oz.	Decatur Lake Monona County	2-23	John Kelley Onawa			
Todd Koza edar Rapids	2 lb. 2 oz.	Roberts Creek Marion County	4-28	Ed Mohler Polk City			
eff Mulford Exira	2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Mills County	4-27	Mark Murray Council Bluffs			
Jim Otto Spirit Lake	2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Benton County	3-27	Delmar Schlotterbeck Keystone			
ennis Capps Des Moines	2 lb. 2 oz.	Red Rock Lake Marion County	10-19	Norman VanWyk Pella			
ian Emmick Sioux City	2 lb. 1 oz.	Stollies Pit Clay County	3-15	Todd Corry Spencer			
ferry Helvie Corning	2 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	9-4	David Govig Red Oak			
verett King Blockton	2 lb. 1 oz.	Odessa Louisa County	6-7	Kenneth Grimm Wapello			
Terry Holm Des Moines	2 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-6	Ralph Livingston Guttenberg			
arrol Kinion Monroe	2 lb.	Farm Pond Sac County	5-4	Greg Currie Early			
ry Bingham Chariton	2 lb.	Saylorville Polk County	6-18	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines			
n Anderson ouri Valley	2 lb.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	4-22	Jeff Jones West Des Moines			
ori Zellmer Atlantic	2 lb.	Decatur Lake Monona County	9-1	Irene Schaefer Dunlap			
David Govig Red Oak							
ard Lindsey Vinton							
nald Nelson Clarinda							
ennis Davis Batavia							
teve Proper Farmington							
Tom Ford Fairfield							
iszczynskij Fort Dodge							
n Lancaster LeMars							
Doug Schaa Eldora							
Dave Roe Gilman							
Blaine Martin Farmington							
Dan Heineman Garrison							
Larry Gattschalk Lowden							
Vernon Kaune Waterloo							
Steve Proper Farmington							
Jan Bartels Toronto							
Lubon Hiszczynskij Fort Dodge							
DRUM, FRESHWATER (Minimum — 15 lbs.)				25 lb.			
	Mississippi River	8-25		Robert Drahn Monona			
	Clayton County						
	Mississippi River	9-28		Robert Schmiedel Cedar Rapids			
	Clayton County						
	Mississippi River	7-2		Clark Russell Oelwein			
	Allamakee County						
GAR (Minimum — 10 lbs.)				— No entries			
MUSKIE (Minimum — 40" or 15 lbs.)				29 lb. 8 oz.			
	West Okoboji	11-16		Frank Tielbur Arnold's Park			
	Dickinson County						
	Clear Lake	4-28		David Peck Winthrop			
	Cerro Gordo County						
	Big Spirit Lake	10-17		Dave Brunsvold Estherville			
	Dickinson County						
	West Okoboji	10-15		Stephen Lyman Sioux City			
	Dickinson County						
	West Okoboji	8-24		Bill Born Milford			
	Dickinson County						
	West Okoboji	8-23		Dick Pautvein Indianola			
	Dickinson County						
	Big Creek	7-13		Garry Graham Ankeny			
	Polk County						
	East Okoboji	6-22		Patty Lindemann Worthington, MN			
	Dickinson County						
	West Okoboji	10-27		Jack Hamrick Spencer			
	Dickinson County						
	West Okoboji	6-22		Donald McCulloch Sioux City			
	Dickinson County						
	Clear Lake	8-19		Robert Klotzter Hampton			
	Cerro Gordo County						
	Spirit Lake	8/9/10		Alvin Akin Spirit Lake			
	Dickinson County						
	Big Spirit Lake	8		Shane Akin Spirit Lake			
	Dickinson County						
	Spirit Lake	6-8		Lance Christensen Spencer			
	Dickinson County						
	Spirit Lake	8-9		Dick Crail Algona			
	Dickinson County						
	East Okoboji	8-18		Bob Fitzgerald Milford			
	Dickinson County						
	Spirit Lake	8-23		Allen Forsberg Albert City			
	Dickinson County						
	Big Spirit Lake	8-24		Charles Fraser Holstein			
	Dickinson County						
	Clear Lake	6-8		Virg Harrison Cherokee			
	Cerro Gordo County						
	Big Spirit Lake	8-25		Glen Heinrichs Sibley			
	Dickinson County						
	Spirit Lake	8-25		Tim Kabrick Spencer			
	Dickinson County						
	Spirit Lake	8-24		Greg Kaiser Hartley			
	Dickinson County						



# Park User Permit Required

People using state parks *are required* to have a park user permit. Anyone stopping a motorized vehicle of any kind must have a sticker on the vehicle if they use any facilities. User fees won't be required of visitors who drive through without stopping.

Permits cost \$10 for an annual permit or \$2 for a daily permit.

## EXEMPTIONS

- 1) All school vehicles are exempt from the user fee permit requirement when transporting students and faculty on official school business.

2) Motor vehicles being towed by or carried in or on another motor vehicle bearing a permit are exempt from the permit requirement (such as a car towed by motor home, mopeds carried by pickup) so long as they remain attached and are not parked separately.

3) Vehicles with handicapped plates, wheelchair symbol decal or rearview mirror tag are exempt.

## FREE PERMITS

Free park user permits may be issued to qualifying Iowans in the county in which the applicant resides.

Persons requesting the free permit must present one of the following items to the county recorder:

- 1) A currently valid medical assistance identification card;

2) A written declaration stating that the person is receiving food stamps and a signed release authorizing the Department of Human Services to confirm his or her eligibility; or

3) Proof (valid driver's license or nonoperator's ID card) of age 65 or over.

The person must also provide a registration certificate for his or her motor vehicle, verification that a corporate-owned vehicle is assigned to the applicant for personal use, or certification that a vehicle owned by a relative provides the applicant's primary source of transportation.

**I want \_\_\_\_\_ permit(s). Please send them to:**  
(No.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Zip

Weight	Where Caught
<b>* New State Record</b>	
<b>BASS, LARGE MOUTH (Minimum — 7 lb.)</b>	
9 lb. 12 oz.	Marion Co. Pond Marion County
9 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Page County
9 lb.	Farm Pond Harrison County
8 lb. 12 oz.	Lake Rathbun Lucas County
8 lb. 7 oz.	George Wyth Black Hawk County
8 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Story County
8 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Union County
8 lb.	Farm Pond Madison County
8 lb.	Lake of the Hills Scott County
8 lb.	Farm Pond Fremont County
8 lb.	Farm Pond Mills County
7 lb. 15 oz.	Farm Pond Mills County
7 lb. 14 oz.	Crystal Lake Clinton County
7 lb. 11 oz.	Gravel Pit Monona County
7 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Monona County
7 lb. 8 oz.	Municipal Park Plymouth County
7 lb. 8 oz.	Sand Pit Muscatine County
7 lb. 8 oz.	Private Marion County
7 lb. 7 oz.	Clermont Sandpit Clayton County
7 lb. 7 oz.	Lake Anita Cass County
7 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond Lucas County
7 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Ida County
7 lb. 5 oz.	Ellis Lucas County
7 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Benton County
7 lb. 4 oz.	Rathbun Appanoose County
7 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Guthrie County
7 lb. 4 oz.	Red Rock Lake Marion County
7 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Fremont County
7 lb. 2 oz.	Robert's Creek Marion County
7 lb.	Arrowhead Sac County
7 lb.	Rock Bluff Quarry Wapello County
<b>BASS, OCEAN STRIPED (Minimum — 5 lb.) — No entries</b>	
<b>BASS, ROCK (Minimum — 1 lb.)</b>	
1 lb. 3 oz.	Wapsipinicon River Bremer County
<b>BASS, SMALL MOUTH (Minimum — 4 lb.)</b>	
5 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County
5 lb. 8 oz.	Quarry Pond Webster County
5 lb. 6 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County
5 lb. 5 oz.	Wapsie River Linn County
5 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County
5 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County
4 lb. 14 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County
4 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County
4 lb. 12 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County
4 lb. 9 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County



**Enclose with proper payment.**

**Detach here**



Enclose with proper payment,  
seal and mail

Detach here

Address	Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
vid Mueller Dubuque	2 lb. 8 oz.	Hickory Grove Story County	5-6	Luther Quam Ames
borah Prior Maquoketa	2 lb. 7 oz.	White Breast Creek Marion County	5-1	Robert Bingham Melcher
John Cox Spirit Lake	2 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond Poweshiek County	5-18	Jason Roudabush Brooklyn
ekerjuergen West Point	2 lb. 5 oz.	Lake Morris Lucas County	8-19	Roberta Baker Chariton
Terry Cox Spirit Lake	2 lb. 5 oz.	Cedar River Mitchell County	9-1	Matt Gebel New Hampton
	2 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Davis County	6-28	Jim Mernka Ottumwa
	2 lb. 5 oz.	Sand Pit Warren County	7-2	Monty Collins Swan
Leon Wendt Glenwood	2 lb. 4 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-13	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
hris Carlson Ankeny	2 lb. 4 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	5-1	Martha Holzworth Des Moines
Vanderhoof Red Oak	2 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-6	Derrick Livingston Guttenberg
zo Halligan Hudson	2 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Tama County	5-21	Jo Otto Garwin
ames Evans Omaha, NE	2 lb. 3 oz.	Iowa County Lake Iowa County	1-27	Carmen Fleming Cedar Rapids
e Railsback edar Rapids	2 lb. 3 oz.	Cedar River Linn County	4-13	Dennis Jobe Hiawatha
e Blanchard Osceola	2 lb. 3 oz.	Red Haw Lucas County	10-17	F. N. Wilhite Chariton
dwin Harris Corning	2 lb. 2 oz.	Raccoon River Dallas County	5-17	Nathan Bailey Waukee
ob Torrence Red Oak	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-7	Heather Farmer Des Moines
Gen Herring Earlham	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	6-14	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
ug Rowland Chariton	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	6-18	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
Harry Hiner Neola	2 lb. 2 oz.	Decatur Lake Monona County	2-23	John Kelley Onawa
Todd Koza edar Rapids	2 lb. 2 oz.	Roberts Creek Marion County	4-28	Ed Mohler Polk City
eff Mulford Exira	2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Mills County	4-27	Mark Murray Council Bluffs
Jim Otto Spirit Lake	2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Benton County	3-27	Delmar Schlotterbeck Keystone
ennis Capps Des Moines	2 lb. 2 oz.	Red Rock Lake Marion County	10-19	Norman VanWyk Pella
ian Emmick Sioux City	2 lb. 1 oz.	Stollies Pit Clay County	3-15	Todd Corry Spencer
ferry Helvie Corning	2 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	9-4	David Govig Red Oak
iverett King Blockton	2 lb. 1 oz.	Odessa Louisa County	6-7	Kenneth Grimm Wapello
Terry Holm Des Moines	2 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-6	Ralph Livingston Guttenberg
urrol Kinion Monroe	2 lb.	Farm Pond Sac County	5-4	Greg Currie Early
ry Bingham Chariton	2 lb.	Saylorville Polk County	6-18	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
n Anderson souri Valley	2 lb.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	4-22	Jeff Jones West Des Moines
ori Zellmer Atlantic	2 lb.	Decatur Lake Monona County	9-1	Irene Schaefer Dunlap
David Govig Red Oak	25 lb.	DRUM, FRESHWATER (Minimum — 15 lbs.) Mississippi River Clayton County	8-25	Robert Drahn Monona
ard Lindsey Vinton	19 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	9-28	Robert Schmiedel Cedar Rapids
nald Nelson Clarinda	16 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	7-2	Clark Russell Oelwein
ennis Davis Batavia		GAR (Minimum — 10 lbs.) — No entries		
teve Proper Farmington		MUSKIE (Minimum — 40" or 15 lbs.)		
Tom Ford Fairfield	29 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-16	Frank Tielbur Arnold's Park
iszczynskij Fort Dodge	29 lb. 2 oz.	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	4-28	David Peck Winthrop
n Lancaster LeMars	22 lb. 14 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-17	Dave Brunsvold Estherville
Doug Schaa Eldora	22 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-15	Stephen Lyman Sioux City
Dave Roe Gilman	21 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-24	Bill Born Milford
Blaine Martin Farmington	20 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-23	Dick Pautvein Indianola
Dan Heineman Garrison	19 lb.	Big Creek Polk County	7-13	Garry Graham Ankeny
Larry Gattschalk Lowden	18 lb. 10 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	6-22	Patty Lindemann Worthington, MN
Vernon Kaune Waterloo	16 lb. 15 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-27	Jack Hamrick Spencer
Steve Proper Farmington	16 lb. 10 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	6-22	Donald McCulloch Sioux City
Jan Bartels Toronto	15 lb. 9 oz.	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	8-19	Robert Klotzter Hampton
Lubon Hiszczynskij Fort Dodge	Released <sup>(9)</sup>	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8/9/10	Alvin Akin Spirit Lake
	Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8	Shane Akin Spirit Lake
	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6/8	Lance Christensen Spencer
	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8/9	Dick Crail Algona
	Released	East Okoboji Dickinson County	8-18	Bob Fitzgerald Milford
	Released <sup>(2)</sup>	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-23	Allen Forsberg Albert City
	Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Charles Fraser Holstein
	Released	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	6-8	Virg Harrison Cherokee
	Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-25	Glen Heinrichs Sibley
	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-25	Tim Kabrick Spencer
	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Greg Kaiser Hartley



# Park User Permit Required

People using state parks *are required* to have a park user permit. Anyone stopping a motorized vehicle of any kind must have a sticker on the vehicle if they use any facilities. User fees won't be required of visitors who drive through without stopping.

Permits cost \$10 for an annual permit or \$2 for a daily permit.

## EXEMPTIONS

1) All school vehicles are exempt from the user fee permit requirement when transporting students and faculty on official school business.

2) Motor vehicles being towed by or carried in or on another motor vehicle bearing a permit are exempt from the permit requirement (such as a car towed by motor home, mopeds carried by pickup) so long as they remain attached and are not parked separately.

3) Vehicles with handicapped plates, wheelchair symbol decal or rearview mirror tag are exempt.

## FREE PERMITS

Free park user permits may be issued to qualifying Iowans in the county in which the applicant resides.

Persons requesting the free permit must present one of the following items to the county recorder:

1) A currently valid medical assistance identification card;

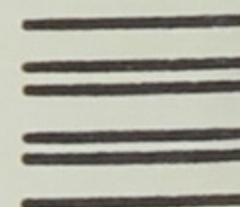
2) A written declaration stating that the person is receiving food stamps and a signed release authorizing the Department of Human Services to confirm his or her eligibility; or

3) Proof (valid driver's license or nonoperator's ID card) of age 65 or over.

The person must also provide a registration certificate for his or her motor vehicle, verification that a corporate-owned vehicle is assigned to the applicant for personal use, or certification that a vehicle owned by a relative provides the applicant's primary source of transportation.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE  
IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
WALLACE STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319-0034

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 781 DES MOINES, IOWA



NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

Weight

\* New State I  
BASS, LAR  
9 lb. 12 oz.

9 lb. 2 oz.

9 lb.

8 lb. 12 oz.

8 lb. 7 oz.

8 lb. 5 oz.

8 lb. 2 oz.

8 lb.

8 lb.

8 lb.

8 lb.

7 lb. 15 oz.

7 lb. 14 oz.

7 lb. 11 oz.

7 lb. 8 oz.

7 lb. 8 oz.

7 lb. 8 oz.

7 lb. 8 oz.

7 lb. 7 oz.

7 lb. 7 oz.

7 lb. 6 oz.

7 lb. 5 oz.

7 lb. 5 oz.

7 lb. 5 oz.

7 lb. 4 oz.

7 lb. 4 oz.

7 lb. 4 oz.

7 lb. 3 oz.

7 lb. 2 oz.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

7 lb.

Appanoose County			
Farm Pond	3-24		
Guthrie County			
Red Rock Lake	6-30		
Marion County			
Farm Pond	3-18		
Fremont County			
Robert's Creek	7-25		
Marion County			
Arrowhead	8-31		
Sac County			
Rock Bluff Quarry	4-15		
Wapello County			
BASS, OCEAN STRIPED (Minimum — 5 lbs.)			
—No entries			
BASS, ROCK (Minimum — 1 lb.)			
1 lb. 3 oz.	Wapsipinicon River	4-19	
	Bremer County		
BASS, SMALLMOUTH (Minimum — 4 lbs.)			
5 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji	4-20	
	Dickinson County		
5 lb. 8 oz.	Quarry Pond	10-5	
	Webster County		
5 lb. 6 oz.	West Okoboji	10-3	
	Dickinson County		
5 lb. 5 oz.	Wapsie River	5-26	
	Linn County		
5 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji	10-5	
	Dickinson County		
5 lb.	West Okoboji	5-8	
	Dickinson County		
4 lb. 14 oz.	Mississippi River	11-9	
	Clayton County		
4 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji	9-21	
	Dickinson County		
4 lb. 12 oz.	Spirit Lake	9-28	
	Dickinson County		
4 lb. 9 oz.	West Okoboji	4-20	
	Dickinson County		

Muscatine			
Kenneth Jones			
Stuart			
BLUEGILL (Minimum — 1 lb.)			
2 lb. 2 oz.			
2 lb.			
2 lb.			
1 lb. 14 oz.			
1 lb. 13 oz.			
1 lb. 10 oz.			
1 lb. 10 oz.			
1 lb. 9 oz.			
1 lb. 9 oz.			
1 lb. 8 oz.			
1 lb. 8 oz.			
1 lb. 7 oz.			
1 lb. 7 oz.			
1 lb. 6 oz.			
1 lb. 6 oz.			
1 lb. 5 oz.			
1 lb. 5 oz.			
1 lb. 5 oz.			

Muscatine County			
Farm Pond	5-20		
Guthrie County			
East Spirit Lake	5-17		
Dickinson County			
Farm Pond	3-3		
Monroe County			
Farm Pond	5-12		
Page County			
Farm Pond	4-19		
Warren County			
Farm Pond	3-30		
Lee County			
Farm Pond	7-13		
Monroe County			
Farm Pond	4-21		
Adair County			
Farm Pond	5-5		
Mahaska County			
Farm Pond	7-28		
Clayton County			
Big Spirit	5-28		
Dickinson County			
Farm Pond	4-28		
Jones County			
Farm Pond	4-28		
Jones County			
Farm Pond	6-1		
Cass County			
Farm Pond	4-28		
Crawford County			
Farm Pond	5-15		
Washington County			
Farm Pond	4-16		
Page County			
Gravel Pit	4-27		
Sac County			
Volga Lake	6-21		
Fayette County			

Davenport			
Steve Cummings			
Adair			
Kris Krie			
Spirit Lake			
Tom Shehan			
Albia			
Will Knoll			
Clarinda			
Clarence Howe			
Knoxville			
Jeremy Owen			
Fort Madison			
Troy Underwood			
Moravia			
James Olson			
Greenfield			
Roger Stacy			
Altoona			
Jerry Koons			
Elkader			
Todd Kramer			
Lone Rock			
L. J. Trumm			
Cascade			
Tom Cooper			
Monticello			
Richard Kroupa			
Atlantic			
Rachel Brink			
Dow City			
Jeff Thomann			
Ainsworth			
Jane Andrew			
Clarinda			
Kenneth Frank			
Carroll			
Tony Jessen			
Randall			



Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address	Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address	Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Pocahontas County	5-18	Michael Amerson Gilmore City	30 lb.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	5-19	David Mueller Dubuque	2 lb. 8 oz.	Hickory Grove Story County	5-6	Luther Quam Ames
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Plymouth County	7-19	Jim Dvorak Sioux City	30 lb.	N. Fork Maquoketa R. Jackson County	5-4	Deborah Prior Maquoketa	2 lb. 7 oz.	White Breast Creek Marion County	5-1	Robert Bingham Melcher
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	6-13	Duane Ellison Griswold	28 lb. 8 oz.	Big Spirit Dickinson County	5-1	John Cox Spirit Lake	2 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond Poweshiek County	5-18	Jason Roudabush Brooklyn
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Adair County	4-13	Gary Heinhach Fontanelle	27 lb. 14 oz.	Skunk River Lee County	2-	Paul Stuekerjuergen West Point	2 lb. 5 oz.	Lake Morris Lucas County	8-19	Roberta Baker Chariton
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	5-18	Luke Hunget Indianola	26 lb. 9 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	4-25	Terry Cox Spirit Lake	2 lb. 5 oz.	Cedar River Mitchell County	9-1	Matt Gebel New Hampton
1 lb. 3 oz. (2)	Farm Pond Davis County	4-25	Joe Cary Bloomfield	CATFISH, BLUE (Minimum — 20 lbs.) — No entries				2 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Davis County	6-28	Jim Mernika Ottumwa
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Taylor County	5-4	W. D. Eighmy Conway	CATFISH, CHANNEL (Minimum — 15 lbs.)				2 lb. 5 oz.	Sand Pit Warren County	7-2	Monty Collins Swan
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	3-29	Andy Harkin Cumming	24 lb.	Farm Pond Mills County	9-19	Leon Wendt Glenwood	2 lb. 4 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-13	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Mahaska County	5-5	Terry Helvie Altoona	23 lb. 3 oz.	Hawkeye Park Polk County	7-15	Chris Carlson Ankeny	2 lb. 4 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	5-1	Martha Holzworth Des Moines
1 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	5-5	Rodney Kern New Vienna	22 lb. 13 oz.	Viking Lake Montgomery County	9-24	Randy Vanderhoof Red Oak	2 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-6	Derrick Livingston Guttenberg
1 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Unknown County	5-22	Wayne McCrackin Marquette	22 lb. 13 oz.	Cedar River Black Hawk County	4-	Leo Halligan Hudson	2 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Tama County	5-21	Jo Otta Garwin
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Decatur County	10-13	Vernon Miller Newell	22 lb. 6 oz.	Lake Icaria Adams County	6-22	James Evans Omaha, NE	2 lb. 3 oz.	Iowa County Lake Iowa County	1-27	Carmen Fleming Cedar Rapids
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Davis County	6-3	Bob Mishler Bloomfield	21 lb. 9 oz.	Pleasant Creek Linn County	9-2	Joe Railsback Cedar Rapids	2 lb. 3 oz.	Cedar River Linn County	4-13	Dennis Jobe Hiawatha
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Woodbury County	5-25	Al Willis Sloan	21 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Clarke County	4-14	Mike Blanchard Osceola	2 lb. 3 oz.	Red Haw Lucas County	10-17	F. N. Wilhite Chariton
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	7-6	Diane Briggs Red Oak	20 lb. 3 oz.	Lake Icaria Adams County	8-15	Edwin Harris Corning	2 lb. 2 oz.	Raccoon River Dallas County	5-17	Nathan Bailey Wauke
1 lb. 2 oz. (4)	Farm Pond Davis County	4-25	Joe Cary Bloomfield	20 lb. 3 oz.	Lake Icaria Adams County	8-1	Bob Torrence Red Oak	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-7	Heather Farmer Des Moines
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	6-13	Duane Ellison Griswold	19 lb. 8 oz.	Middle Raccoon Guthrie County	8-24	Ken Herring Earlham	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	6-14	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	4-17	Shane Kakac Indianola	18 lb. 12 oz.	Red Haw Lucas County	9-26	Doug Rowland Chariton	2 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	6-18	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
1 lb. 2 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-5	John Kruger Sheldon	18 lb. 6 oz.	Willow Lake Harrison County	8-30	Harry Hiner Neola	2 lb. 2 oz.	Decatur Lake Monona County	2-23	John Kelley Onawa
1 lb. 2 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-5	Todd Kruger Sheldon	18 lb.	Cedar River Linn County	5-25	Todd Koza Cedar Rapids	2 lb. 2 oz.	Roberts Creek Marion County	4-28	Ed Mohler Polk City
1 lb. 2 oz.	Lake Icaria Adams County	7-5	Carl Nixon Council Bluffs	18 lb.	Lake Anita Cass County	8-2	Jeff Mulford Exira	2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Mills County	4-27	Mark Murray Council Bluffs
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Butler County	4-19	Timothy Reints Clarksville	17 lb. 8 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	5-11	Jim Otto Spirit Lake	2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Benton County	3-27	Delmar Schlotterbeck Keystone
1 lb. 1 oz. (3)	Farm Pond Davis County	4-25	Joe Cary Bloomfield	17 lb. 6 oz.	Big Creek Polk County	5-4	Dennis Capps Des Moines	2 lb. 2 oz.	Red Rock Lake Marion County	10-19	Norman VanWyk Pella
1 lb. 1 oz.	Lost Island Palo Alto County	6-15	Jason Clayton Dickens	17 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-9	Brian Emmick Sioux City	2 lb. 1 oz.	Stollies Pit Clay County	3-15	Todd Corry Spencer
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Cass County	5-28	Thomas Coatney Anita	17 lb. 1 oz.	Lake Icaria Adams County	6-15	Terry Helvie Corning	2 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	9-4	David Govig Red Oak
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Johnson County	5-27	Leslie Forbes Iowa City	16 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Taylor County	10-	Everett King Blockton	2 lb. 1 oz.	Odessa Louisa County	6-7	Kenneth Grimm Wapello
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Adair County	4-20	John Ford Johnston	15 lb. 14 oz.	Big Creek Polk County	7	Terry Holm Des Moines	2 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-6	Ralph Livingston Guttenberg
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Montrose County	5-19	John Georgeson Omaha, NE	15 lb. 11 oz.	Skunk River Jasper County	6-13	Carrol Kinion Monroe	2 lb.	Farm Pond Sac County	5-4	Greg Currie Early
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	1-21	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines	15 lb. 10 oz.	Farm Pond Lucas County	6-9	Gary Bingham Chariton	2 lb.	Saylorville Polk County	6-18	Frank Gustafson West Des Moines
1 lb. 1 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-20	Todd Kruger Sheldon	15 lb. 8 oz.	Saw Mill Hollow Unknown County	5-8	Tom Anderson Missouri Valley	2 lb.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	4-22	Jeff Jones West Des Moines
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Plymouth County	7-18	Norman Newberg Hinton	15 lb. 8 oz.	Schildberg's Quarry Cass County	8-17	Lori Zellmer Atlantic	2 lb.	Decatur Lake Monona County	9-1	Irene Schaefer Dunlap
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Pottawattamie County	2-15	Dan Stasch Omaha, NE	15 lb. 2 oz.	Nishnabota Montgomery County	1-5	David Govig Red Oak	DRUM, FRESHWATER (Minimum — 15 lbs.)			
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Henry County	8-13	George White Mt. Pleasant	15 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Benton County	8	Richard Lindsey Vinton	25 lb.	Mississippi River Clayton County	8-25	Robert Drahn Monona
1 lb.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-5	Darrell Kruger Spirit Lake	15 lb.	Lake Icaria Adams County	8-4	Donald Nelson Clarinda	19 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	9-28	Robert Schmiedel Cedar Rapids
1 lb.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-12	Darrell Kruger Spirit Lake	CATFISH, FLATHEAD (Minimum — 20 lbs.)				16 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	7-2	Clark Russell Oelwein
1 lb.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-26	Todd Kruger Sheldon	55 lb. 8 oz.	Skunk River Henry County	5-24	Dennis Davis Batavia	GAR (Minimum — 10 lbs.) — No entries			
1 lb.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-22	Tom Noteboom Orange City	41 lb.	Des Moines River Lee County	5-2	Steve Proper Farmington	MUSKIE (Minimum — 40" or 15 lbs.)			
1 lb.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-14	Steve Proctor Spencer	40 lb. 8 oz.	Skunk River Henry County	5-24	Tom Ford Fairfield	29 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-16	Frank Tielbur Arnold's Park
1 lb.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	7-20	Hugh Richardson Dubuque	40 lb. 4 oz.	Des Moines River Webster County	7-31	Anthony Hiszczynskyj Fort Dodge	29 lb. 2 oz.	Clear Lake Dickinson County	4-28	David Peck Winthrop
1 lb.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	4-12	David Teal Omaha, NE	33 lb.	Rock River Sioux County	7-6	Tim Lancaster LeMars	22 lb. 14 oz.	Cerro Gordo County Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-17	Dave Brunsfold Estherville
BOWFIN (Minimum — 5 lbs.)				32 lb.	Iowa River Hardin County	6-22	Doug Schaa Eldora	22 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-15	Stephen Lyman Sioux City
*10 lb. 6 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-27	Darol Snyder Reinbeck	30 lb.	Iowa River Marshall County	8-20	Dave Roe Gilman	21 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-24	Bill Born Milford
7 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clinton County	6-6	Stephen Bromley Clinton	29 lb.	Des Moines River Lee County	6-7	Blaine Martin Farmington	20 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-23	Dick Pautvein Indianola
6 lb. 11 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	5-12	Tom Doering Jr. Pleasant Valley	23 lb. 12 oz.	Cedar River Benton County	5-25	Dan Heineman Garrison	19 lb.	Big Creek Polk County	7-13	Garry Graham Ankeny
BUFFALO (Minimum — 20 lbs.)				23 lb.	Wapsipinicon River Clinton County	8-30	Larry Gattschalk Lowden	18 lb. 10 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	6-22	Patty Lindemann Worthington, MN
32 lb. 1 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	5-1	Randy Roede Sibley	22 lb. 12 oz.	Cedar River Benton County	6-29	Vernon Kaune Waterloo	16 lb. 15 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-27	Jack Hamrick Spencer
28 lb.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	5-1	John Cox Spirit Lake	22 lb. 8 oz.	Des Moines River Lee County	5-2	Steve Proper Farmington	16 lb. 10 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	6-22	Donald McCulloch Sioux City
21 lb. 5 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	5-1	Terry Cox Spirit Lake	21 lb. 4 oz.	Wapsipinicon Clinton County	5-24	Jan Bartels Toronto	15 lb. 9 oz.	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	8-19	Robert Klotzner Hampton
BULLHEAD (Minimum — 2 1/2 lbs.)				20 lb. 6 oz.	Des Moines River Webster County	7-28	Lubon Hiszczynskyj Fort Dodge	Released (9)			
3 lb. 8 oz.	Carney's Ford Polk County	5-9	Harvey Weatherman Jr. Cambridge	CRAPPIE (Minimum — 2 lbs.)				Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8/9/10	Alvin Akin Spirit Lake
3 lb. 5 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	4-11	Stan Mielke Monona	4 lb. 5 oz.	Sand Pit Woodbury County	5-27	Dave Rodman Sioux City	Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8	Shane Akin Spirit Lake
3 lb.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	6-17	David Govig Red Oak	3 lb. 6 oz.	Central Jones County	5-17	Roger Hansel Anamosa	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6/8	Lance Christensen Spencer
2 lb. 14 oz.	Farm Pond Taylor County	5-4	D. W. Eighmy Conway	3 lb. 4 oz.	Afton Lake Union County	4-28	Don Mosman Creston	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8/9	Dick Crail Algona
2 lb. 12 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	6-17	David Govig Red Oak	3 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Woodbury County	4-21	James Burkett Sioux City	Released	East Okoboji Dickinson County	8-18	Bob Fitzgerald Milford
2 lb. 10 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	8-11	Michael Holzworth Des Moines	2 lb. 13 oz.	Farm Pond Fremont County	5-25	Gary Moody Northboro	Released (2)	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-23	Allen Forsberg Albert City
2 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	5-4	David Govig Red Oak	2 lb. 12 oz.	Farm Pond Muscatine County	5-23	Archie Kaalberg Muscatine	Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Charles Fraser Holstein
2 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Sac County	5-	Rusty Wilke Odebolt	2 lb. 12 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	5-6	Gerald Peterson Des Moines	Released	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	6-8	Virg Harrison Cherokee
CARP (Minimum — 25 lbs.)				2 lb. 9 oz.	Central Park Jones County	4-30	Ed Thomas Anamosa	Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-25	Glen Heinrichs Sibley
37 lb.	Big Creek Polk County	10-3	Kirk Olsen Des Moines	2 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Palo Alto County	5-20	Archie Banwart Rodman	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-25	Tim Kabrick Spencer
34 lb. 8 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	4-19	Peg Hampie Lake City	2 lb. 8 oz.	Pond Decatur County	4-7	Blaine Farmer VanWert	Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Greg Kaiser Hartley



Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address	Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address	Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
Released <sup>(2)</sup>	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-9	Dwane Krogman Lismore, MN	40 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-19	Larry Cherven VanHorne	3 lb. 9 oz.	Missouri River Woodbury County	8-30	Dan Rowe Sioux City
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-21	Maury Muhm Spirit Lake	38 lb. 12 oz.	Missouri River Harrison County	2-17	Gerald Dickey Logan	3 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Clinton County	11-18	Patrick Cord Woodward
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-31	Ed Thelen Spirit Lake	38 lb. 6 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-15	Al Bieber Center Point	3 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-10	Ed Dravak Guttenberg
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Mike Wiese Milford	38 lb.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	5-12	Terry Manders Dubuque	3 lb. 7 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	10-15	Mike King Clinton
				37 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-18	Henry Gertz Bellevue	3 lb. 6 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	2-22	Bill Dentmeyer Dyersville
<b>MUSKIE, TIGER (Minimum — 40" or 15 lbs.)</b>				37 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-9	Darold Lawless Garwin	3 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	9-14	Gary Feuerbach Bellevue
23 lb. 4 oz.	Lake Macbride Johnson County	6-30	Glenn Schroeder Milan, IL	36 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-17	Glen Tiedeman Cedar Rapids	3 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	12-27	Stephen Stollenberg Sherrard, IL
22 lb. 4 oz.	Big Creek Lake Polk County	5-4	Virgil Erbe Maxwell	34 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-17	Douglas Middle Rock Valley	3 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	2-8	Bill Deutmeyer Dyersville
21 lb. 8 oz.	Big Creek Polk County	3-22	Ralph Grant Des Moines	33 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-21	David Campbell Vinton	3 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	2-19	Charles Doering Pleasant Valley
20 lb. 7 oz.	Hawthorn Lake Mahaska County	6-24	Duane Mast Kalona	33 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-18	Willard Kress Guttenberg	3 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Muscatine County	3-18	Frank Juarez Davenport
19 lb.	Hawthorn Mahaska County	6-30	Erick Calderwood Brooklyn	33 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-18	Paul Schroeder Davenport	3 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	6-19	Ralph Livingston Guttenberg
17 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-17	Don Sanders Arnolds Park	32 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-18	Willard Kress Guttenberg	3 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-10	Ed Dvorak Guttenberg
16 lb. 14 oz.	Lake Anita Cass County	9-14	Joseph Brown Council Bluffs	25 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-18	Paul Schroeder Davenport	3 lb.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	3-22	Dennis Lent Dubuque
<b>NORTHERN PIKE (Minimum — 10 lbs.)</b>								3 lb.	Missouri River Woodbury County	10-21	Dan Murphy Sioux City
18 lb.	Des Moines River Kossuth County	6-15	Ann Baer Burt	<b>PERCH, YELLOW (Minimum — 1 lb.)</b>				2 lb. 14 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-26	Stephen Bromley Clinton
15 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-9	Max Utesch LeMars	1 lb. 13 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	2-10	Donald Conlon Spencer	2 lb. 14 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-30	Don Pisel DeWitt
15 lb. 1 oz.	Okoboji Dickinson County	8-23	Dick Pautvein Indianola	1 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-8	Clark Russell Oelwein	2 lb. 13 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-30	Larry Davis Maquoketa
14 lb. 10 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-10	Gary Elgan Council Bluffs	1 lb. 10 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	2-18	Lester Smrkovski Havlock	2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-27	Stephen Bromley Clinton
14 lb. 3 oz.	Des Moines River Polk County	6-4	Loren Beem Des Moines	1 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	2-13	John Berkler Lytton	2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-24	Dave Gross Dubuque
14 lb. 3 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	9-1	Jeff Boonstra Orange City	1 lb. 6 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-9	Marty Andera Spillville	2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	2-6	Donald Roling Worthington
14 lb. 3 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-24	Lawrence Wissink Sheldon	1 lb. 5 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	3-9	Jack Mau Paullina	2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	1-26	Eric Stirn Guttenberg
14 lb. 2 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-22	James Hunt Sidney, NE	1 lb. 5 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-2	Dennis Mayne Cedar Rapids	2 lb. 11 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-18	Rick Wedewer New Vienna
13 lb. 4 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	5-24	Leo Kofoot Spirit Lake	1 lb. 5 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	5-23	Shawn Puhmann Paullina	2 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-24	Rick Wedewer New Vienna
13 lb.	Cedar River Linn County	4-12	Steve Ridenour Cedar Rapids	1 lb. 4 oz.	West County Farm Pond	9-24	David Govig Red Oak	2 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	1-17	Joseph Barker Dyersville
12 lb. 12 oz.	Des Moines River Palo Alto County	11-6	Larry Johanson Fort Dodge	1 lb. 4 oz.	Okoboji Dickinson County	10-18	Del Flear Waterloo	2 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-30	Rick Buelow Dubuque
12 lb. 8 oz.	Little Sioux River Buena Vista County	3-26	Thomas Draper Sutherland	1 lb. 4 oz.	Lost Island Palo Alto County	9-14	Roger Hough Algona	2 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	1-27	Charles Doering Pleasant Valley
12 lb. 6 oz.	Bennett's Pit Pocahontas County	4-26	Jim Sandwig Rolf	1 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-15	Glen Tiedeman Cedar Rapids	2 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-30	Larry Davis Maquoketa
12 lb. 1 oz.	Cylinder Creek Palo Alto County	3-2	Richard Kisch West Bend	1 lb. 3 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	2-10	Scott Johnson Albert City	2 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-22	Ken Roling New Vienna
12 lb.	Shell Rock River Butler County	8-27	Mark Sinram Clarksville	1 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	1-15	Glen Tiedeman Cedar Rapids	2 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-21	Larry Davis Maquoketa
12 lb.	Trumbull Clay County	2-16	Lloyd Strand Spirit Lake	1 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-15	Don Buelter Terri	2 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-22	Bill Engler Dyersville
11 lb. 14 oz.	Stolley Gravel Pit Clayton County	9-2	Ben Grimmus, Jr. Spencer	1 lb. 2 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	12-6	Del Gonder Spirit Lake	2 lb. 5 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-31	Kelly Salow Earlville
11 lb. 13 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	1-3	Del Gonder Spirit Lake	1 lb. 2 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	2-11	Mike Malish Spencer		<b>STURGEON, SHOVELNOSE (Minimum — 3 lbs.)</b>		
11 lb. 11 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	6-6	Dennis Kloft Maquoketa	1 lb. 2 oz.	Lost Island Lake Palo Alto County	8-14	Darwin Morris McCallsburg	3 lb. 14 oz.	Des Moines River Wapello County	5-11	Andy Howell Ottumwa
11 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	7-16	Chad VanLennep Garber	1 lb. 2 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	2-7	Lyle Mugge Spencer		<b>SUCKER, MISC. (Minimum — 4 lbs.)</b>		
11 lb. 6 oz.	Des Moines River Polk County	4-21	Joseph Christian Des Moines	1 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	1-11	Dominick Damiano Marion		— No Entries		
11 lb. 6 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-9	Allen Van Engen Doon	1 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-22	Betsie Tope West Union		<b>SUNFISH, GREEN (Minimum — 1 lb.)</b>		
11 lb. 5 oz.	Shell Rock River Butler County	9-21	Patrick Ross Greene	1 lb. 2 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	2-3	Bill Decker Spencer		— No Entries		
11 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	5-25	Don Sander Holstein	1 lb. 1 oz.	Trumbull Clay County	1-22	Terry Dodson Spencer		<b>SUNFISH, REDEAR (Minimum — 1 lb.)</b>		
11 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	3-8	Mark Burd Dubuque	1 lb. 1 oz.	Okoboji Dickinson County	10-18	Del Flear Waterloo	1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Davis County	6-17	David Davis Bloomfield
11 lb.	Des Moines River Palo Alto County	11-18	Harold Bonnstetter West Bend	1 lb. 1 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	3-7	Arthur Kimblad Paullina	1 lb. 1 oz.	Pond Warren County	5-13	Rich Forret Indianola
11 lb.	Little Sioux River Buena Vista County	3-26	Thomas Draper Sutherland	1 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji County	1-26	Adrian Landegent Rock Valley	1 lb. 1 oz.	Warren County Pond	5-13	Terry Stockstrom Indianola
11 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	8-16	Dwane Kregman Lismore, MN	1 lb. 1 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	1-26	Adrian Landegent Rock Valley		<b>TROUT, BROOK (Minimum — 1 lb.)</b>		
11 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	7-30	Mark Witt Omaha, NE	1 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji County	2-27	Richard Ries Pocahontas		— No Entries		
10 lb. 12 oz.	Volga River Fayette County	9-17	David House West Union	1 lb. 1 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	12-7	Glen Sommers Milford		<b>TROUT, BROWN (Minimum — 3 lbs.)</b>		
10 lb. 11 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	2-11	Del Gonder Spirit Lake	1 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji County	12-20	Curt VanOort Doon	11 lb. 4 oz.	Pine Creek Winnebago County	5-16	Todd Stuttlurg LaVale, WI
10 lb. 11 oz.	West Lake Okoboji Dickinson County	10-16	Dean Tuttle Spencer	1 lb. 1 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	1-5	Joe Hanson Alta	9 lb. 14 oz.	Bankston Park Unknown County	3-8	Gary Bechen Dubuque
10 lb. 9 oz.	Bussey Lake Clayton County	6-23	Gene Fischer Guttenberg	1 lb.	Big Spirit Dickinson County	12-7	Glen Boer Sheldon	9 lb. 4 oz.	Ensign Hollow Clayton County	8-27	Larry Lynn Winthrop
10 lb. 8 oz.	Bussey Lake Clayton County	1-14	Larry Carlson St. Olaf	1 lb.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	2-11	Mike Malish Spencer	9 lb. 1 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	7-7	Matt/Chris Karam Cedar Rapids
10 lb. 4 oz.	Snag Creek Black Hawk County	7-31	Steve Aries Waterloo	1 lb.	West Okoboji County	12-20	Curt Van Oort Doon	9 lb.	North Bear Creek Winnebago County	5-5	Roger Grummer Latimer
10 lb. 3 oz.	Cedar River Benton County	7-23	David Campbell Vinton	1 lb.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	1-30	Brian Nelson Primghar	8 lb. 12 oz.	North Bear Winnebago County	3-2	Barry Tweedell Austin, MN
10 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-6	Dennis Mammenga Little Rock	1 lb.	West Okoboji County	12-20	Curt Van Oort Doon	8 lb. 2 oz.	Coldwater Creek Winnebago County	5-7	Mary Day Cresco
10 lb. 2 oz.	Cedar River Area Benton County	5-21	Donald Trachta Vinton	1 lb.				7 lb. 11 oz.	Unknown Allamakee County	7-5	Richard Stolfus Lawler
10 lb. 1 oz.	Dudgeon Lake Benton County	3-20	Neoma Halligan Brandon	1 lb.				7 lb. 2 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	9-2	Ronald Vogt Manchester
10 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-22	Eugene Logan Rock Rapids		<b>SAUGER (Minimum — 2 1/2 lbs.)</b>			7 lb.	Waterloo Allamakee County	5-11	Jerry Deters Ames
10 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-31	Sid Logan Rock Rapids	4 lb. 15 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	4-13	Steve Grupe Bettendorf	7 lb.	Waterloo Creek Allamakee County	5-31	Al Rohmer Waterloo
10 lb.	Winnebago River Worth County	5-21	Thelan Elthon Fertile	4 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-22	Larry Davis Maquoketa	6 lb. 8 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	6-5	Dean Melsha Swisher
10 lb.	Mississippi River Clayton County	2-19	Joe Petrick Dubuque	3 lb. 15 oz.	Mississippi River Clinton County	3-24	Lee Bromley Clinton	6 lb. 4 oz.	Bloody Run Clayton County	3-2	Dave Petsche Peosta
				3 lb. 13 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-18	Paul Schroeder Davenport	6 lb.	Trout Run Winnebago County	5-15	Jeffrey Cowan Marshalltown
<b>PADDLEFISH (Minimum — 25 lbs.)</b>				3 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	10-27	Mike Olinger Prophetstown, IL	6 lb.	Big Mill Jackson County	5-31	John Frederick Clinton
43 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-9	Michael Hofer Toledo	3 lb. 10 oz.	Missouri River Woodbury County	5-13	Terry Krommenhoek Sioux City	6 lb.	Joy Springs Clayton County	7-8	Kris Lenz Manchester
41 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	4-5	David Campbell Vinton	3 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-26	J. W. Pokorny, Jr. Bryant	6 lb.	North Cedar River Clayton County	10-12	Glen Sears Waterloo
40 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	1-6	Al Bieber Center Point								







# NATURE TALE FOR KIDS

## Lepus, the lilliputian lagomorph

By Dean M. Roosa



Jackrabbits are fairly common members of the fauna of Iowa's open plains. Although not seen as frequently now as in decades past, the observant traveler may see one hopping across fields or in the headlights of a car. They are not really rabbits, but hares, and are distinguished by having larger ears, longer and more powerful hind legs, and are born well furred and ready to scamper about hours after birth. Both are members of the taxonomic order *Lagomorpha*.

We find in Iowa the white-tailed jackrabbit, *Lepus townsendii*, white in winter and dusky brown in summer. It normally weighs around 6 to 10 pounds and has a total length of some 22 to 26 inches. Our story begins on a farm in northern Iowa...

It was a cold, wet spring in northern Iowa. Spring was late and farmers were far behind in planting their crops. Even so, the farmer stopped and looked skyward at a passing flock of Canada geese, their haunting calls floating back to earth. The honking of the geese brought back a flood of memories to the farmer, who, as a youngster, hunted the many marshes in the area. But all the marshes had been drained and put into crops, so the geese no longer stopped and all the farmer ever saw was a faint "V" formation high above the former marshes. He was thinking now of the first time he bagged a Canada goose with an ancient shotgun given him by his grandfather. But, he must hurry; crops had to be planted so he gave a nostalgic nod to the faraway flock and turned toward his tractor.

This was no ordinary farmer; he was alarmed at the loss of good wildlife habitat so he left some corn standing in the fall, and planted windbreaks, and created habitat so his wildlife friends could fare better. From his tractor later that day, he saw a movement in one of the strips of wildlife habitat he had planted. He

saw it was a rabbit, but did not have time to stop. Two days later, planting done, he returned to the spot and found a family of jackrabbits scurrying about in the grass. The parents were wary, but the youngsters played in the grass in front of the farmer. He smiled in satisfaction; his wildlife plantings were starting to yield results.

\*\*\*\*\*

The female jackrabbit was watching from a short distance as the farmer stood and watched her litter playing. She was horrified, but could do nothing and was relieved when the farmer finally left. Her four youngsters were experiencing the exuberance of youth — bolting here and there in the grass, causing pride to swell in the heart of the mother. Three were standard, run-of-the-mill jackrabbits — although a few days old, one could see they would be big, powerful animals when they matured. The fourth, named Lepus, was much smaller, sort of the runt of the litter. He was full of vim and vigor, but just a small model. Being smaller, he was always the last in line when feeding time came, so he did not grow as fast as his brothers and sisters. But, he was soon on his own, nibbling on this plant and that, learning what would sustain him throughout life — but he was still not growing like his siblings; he was sort of a lilliputian among the giants.

In late summer, the jackrabbit family disbanded. The farm where they were born could offer only enough habitat for the two parents, so the youngsters were forced to leave. One fell victim to Rey, the red fox who was raising a family on the bank of a nearby dredge ditch. Another, unfamiliar with such things as cars, met an untimely end on a nearby blacktop road. The third spent the summer and fall in a distant wildlife refuge; Lepus was small and so went undetected by enemies and spent the

late summer in a nearby farmer's grove. But, the local dogs made life so tough that Lepus finally left and headed cross-country.

Dodging farm dogs and coyotes, great horned owls and red foxes, he finally arrived at a long-abandoned marshy area. The owners had tried several times to drain it and had finally given up, leaving it to grow up to cattails, willows, and a host of other wetland plants. Lepus cautiously hopped around the perimeter — no foxes, no owls, no coyotes! Here was home.

For a reason unknown to him or to humans, Lepus began to search out certain plants to eat and would return to the same spot on the marsh time after time to lie on the exposed soil, even taking mouthfuls of the soil. It was probably an old salt-lick for cattle or for deer, but no matter, the effect on Lepus was that he started to grow — just like a boy who spurts in growth in late adolescence. Lepus first noticed something was different when he could no longer get into the den he took from the cottontails, and had to move to an abandoned badger den in a nearby field. So, Lepus, the lilliputian lagomorph was now Lepus, lord of the marsh. And he loved it!

Lepus lived in the marsh for two years all by himself. Then, one late March morning, he was basking on the gravelly hillside just outside his den — snoozing, rolling in the sand, and generally enjoying his kingdom in this long-forgotten marsh. Gazing over the marsh, he suddenly sat bolt-upright as he saw movement in the grasses. Another jackrabbit! Another jackrabbit had dared to trespass into his domain! He roared down the slope, murder on his mind. The intruder stood upright on hind legs and watched the boiling-mad Lepus charging across the marsh.

\*\*\*\*\*

Let's leave the charging Lepus for a moment and move back in time a few months and north a few miles to southern Minnesota. A beautiful female jackrabbit had lived for a year in a vast grassland. The previous fall she heard terrible noises as tractors began to plow her beloved home. She was forced to leave and spent the



late fall and winter wandering along a small river flowing south into Iowa. Like Lepus, she was nearly caught by a great horned owl and was glad to leave the woodland and head across the plains of northern Iowa. In late March she suddenly happened upon a long-forgotten marsh; although most plants were brown, she could find green sedges and cattails in protected places on the marsh. She was digging for these tasty morsels one morning when she heard a crashing sound as something came through the vegetation at her. She stood upright on her hind legs and saw it was another jackrabbit. She had no reason to fear another hare because the last jackrabbits she had seen were her brothers and sisters just before they disbanded. Lepus, watching carefully the upright jackrabbit, suddenly realized there was something different and skidded to a stop inches from the trespasser. He suddenly realized this was no ordinary trespasser, but the prettiest jackrabbit he had ever seen. It was spring and Lepus' rage turned to affection. He and the female became inseparable in the coming months and later, Lepus, the lord of the marsh, proudly sat near the old badger den and watched his first family jumping wildly about in the grass at the edge of the marsh.

\*\*\*\*\*

Two men stood on the edge of the marsh. One, the landowner who had tried to drain the marsh several times was remarking on what a shame it was this worthless land could not be put into corn. The other, the farmer who left some of his crop for wildlife and who planted wildlife habitat, and who owned the land where Lepus started life, merely nodded and asked what it would take to buy the land. An offer was made and accepted; the new owner wanted the marsh to be left just like it was forever. A movement in the nearby grass caught the new owners eye; it was Lepus. He stood upright and the two for an instant looked at each other, neither realizing that they had met several years before. Lepus, the lilliputian lagomorph and many generations after him now had a safe refuge. The satisfied farmer, smiling, turned away.

## Profile of an Endangered Species



Ron Johnson

### HIGGIN'S EYE PEARLY MUSSEL (*Lampsilis higginsii*)

By Dean M. Roosa

The Upper Mississippi River, along with its tributaries, forms the world's most important area for diversity and abundance of freshwater mussels. Extensive clambeds have been known for decades and were utilized for an extensive button industry before the days of plastics. In recent years, small fragments of the shells have begun to be used as nuclei of cultured pearls, an important industry in Japan. There has been a dramatic increase in harvesting of shell during the past few years for this purpose. Also, a die-off of unknown origin has affected the beds during the past two years. These two factors have caused increased concern over the long range safety of the beds.

One of the unusual members of the mussel fauna is the Higgin's Eye Pearly Mussel (*Lampsilis higginsii*), a clam which appears on both the federal and state endangered species

list. This mussel occurs sporadically in clam beds and probably was never common, but its range has decreased dramatically in the recent past, prompting federal officials to place it on the federal endangered list. It was formerly found in the Iowa and Wapipinicon Rivers in Iowa, but a recent survey of these streams failed to relocate it.

This clam achieves a length of about three inches, and has a deep yellow or brown shell with green rays. Its range now is basically in the Upper Mississippi River between the Twin Cities, Minnesota and Burlington, Iowa, with a remnant population in the St. Croix River.

Because clams may be used to assess the quality of our streams, it is important we protect these clambeds and, in so doing, protect the integrity of the Mississippi River and maintain it as the ecological treasure it is.





Ron Johnson

# OPENING DAY FEVER

*By Jim Christianson*

What does "opening day" mean to the outdoorsman? It means the beginning — the time set for the hunter or angler to begin pursuit of a particular species. To the resident and visiting angler of Spirit, East and West Okoboji Lakes, opening day (usually the Saturday closest to the 1st of May) means pursuing the wily walleye — the most abundant and popular predator of these famous lakes.

Opening day may not physically elevate one's body temperature but it can create a fever of anticipation and excitement. The excitement of walleye opening begins long before the actual day. It begins when snowflakes still fill the air. Whatever the case, conversations with fishing partners along with rod, reel and lure maintenance stimulate the thought processes and start the emotional roller coaster.

Past experience has indicated there are three basic ingredients that contribute to a successful walleye opening. The first ingredient is timing, which depends on spring weather and water temperature. These two factors greatly influence walleye behavior. For example, if the spring weather has been cold and variable, water temperatures remain cold and the walleyes linger and prolong their spawning. This does not allow the fish proper post spawning-season recovery before the start of the season. If spring weather conditions have been favorable and water temperatures have climbed to around 60 degrees by opening, the fishing can be good. Second, the fish, of course, must be there. Even though annual maintenance stockings of walleye in Spirit and the Okoboji Lakes are fairly consistent, numbers of adult walleye available to the angler fluctuate yearly. This is due to many interrelated biological and environmental factors which ultimately affect the survival of small walleyes. The last ingredient is weather during opening weekend. If conditions are foul and windy weather prohibits the fishermen from fishing, no amount of post-spawn rest or numbers of walleyes will make for a successful opener. If these three ingredients are blended into an opening, watch out,



the action can be furious.

As the season draws near, pre-season hype seems to heighten with increased levels of emotion. Discussions and thoughts are focused on which lake to start on, artificial versus live bait, or combinations of the two, and which areas to hit. With the many choices and possibilities, confusion seems inevitable.

Some basic strategies are to stay fairly small with terminal tackle, use light line (6 lb. test) and fish the bait slowly. Walleyes are not very aggressive this time of year so easy-does-it. A good combination to start out with is the popular jig and minnow combination and the lakes to concentrate on are Spirit and East Okoboji. These lakes are shallower than West Okoboji and the water warms up faster, making the walleyes a bit more aggressive. The popular spots on East Okoboji are mostly in the southern one-third of the lake. The "A-frame" and Parks Marina areas usually have their share of boat concentrations working the reefs in these locations. Gingle's Point and Stoney Point also receive activity. Some of the popular areas on Spirit Lake include north-end foot-bridge area, Stoney Point, Marble Beach and Buffalo Run.

It is important to be versatile with fishing techniques, bait selections, and fishing location choices. This is hard to do for many of us but can increase the probability of success.

I can recall one opening when the weather conditions were good for the fishermen, not too cold and slightly breezy. We had worked hard for a couple of walleyes after the season opened at midnight, until about noon that same day. We had waded the early morning hours on Spirit and had hit the structure off the A-frame, Lone Tree and Stoney on East Lake by boat with little results. We had tried the usual set-ups with minnows, crawlers and leeches, while drifting, trolling and casting. Hunger and no activity started to take their toll until finally a suggestion was made to go eat lunch. But before we got to the boat ramp, one unlikely spot was tried with just a minnow and slip-sinker rig. At high noon we started nailing walleyes in three feet of water. After about two hours we stopped fishing with some nice one-to two-pound fish. This area has been tried repeatedly since but has never quite matched that initial experience. Combining versatility with persistence also paid off for us on a particular breakline off the A-frame on East Okoboji. This structure has been frequently worked on opening weekend with limited success but one year it dealt us some nice walleyes using crawlers instead of the usual minnow rig combinations.

Spirit Lake and East Okoboji are where most of the activity occurs but West Okoboji can produce early. The water temperature is usually cooler

in this lake than the other two lakes, but if spring weather conditions have been favorable, walleyes can be creeled in West Lake on opening weekend. Recalling one such time when opening Saturday had been slow both on Spirit and East Okoboji, the night's fishing strategies were plotted during supper by "Doc", "The Inspector" and myself. Doc is of Doc's Catfish Bait Company — I can get him to think walleyes once in awhile — and The Inspector is a detective in Minnesota. This partnership began before I moved to the lakes region in the early 70's and has continued with the ritualistic walleye opener. The decision was made, which was not easily done by this group, to anchor on Pillsbury Point on West Lake and do some leadhead and minnow casting along with some leech, slip-bobber fishing. The night was brisk and calm and there was not another boat in sight. Fishing started slow as the sun was setting and did not pick up until about nine o'clock. The slip-bobber rigs did not produce but Doc had this speckled, lime-green shassy shad that began to produce. He was able to work it just above the rocks and creel some nice walleyes until around 10:30. We headed for the landing cold but satisfied.

Accommodations for the angler are good in the lakes area with campgrounds buzzing and motel rooms available. There are plenty of good places to eat with a variety of food to suit most any taste. The boat ramps have been upgraded in recent years on all three lakes and provide good access, although they become crowded on opening weekend. Bait shops in the area are more than willing to talk, sell and assist with fishing needs, and are usually open 24 hours a day opening weekend. The lakes have good walleye populations this year and if the weather cooperates, so might the walleyes. For those who catch the fever, it could be a great opening.

---

*Jim Christianson is a fisheries biologist located at the Spirit Lake fish hatchery. He has a B.S. degree from Iowa State University and has been with the commission since 1969.*

---



Ron Johnson



WENDELL SIMONSON

## 40 Years as a Warden

By Randy R. Edwards  
Southeast Regional Safety Officer

On January 1, 1986, Wendell Simonson retired after 40 years as a state conservation officer. Wendell's career has been a long and productive one. Recently I had an opportunity to visit Wendell and his wife Alice at their Oxford home.

Wendell started his career in 1946 as a conservation officer assigned to Kossuth County. He served there for five years and in 1951 moved to Johnson County where he has happily worked since.

Has Wendell enjoyed his 40 years as a warden? "I couldn't be happier anywhere else. I feel fortunate to have been the conservation officer here in Johnson County for so many enjoyable years. I've been blessed with a good territory, cooperation of fellow officers, a good court system and fine friends.

"Working outdoors with people and wildlife and not having to punch a time clock and no set hours are what I've liked most. On duty 24 hours a day and never knowing what's over the next hill or around the next curve... that's part of what I've liked about it too."

As I sat visiting with Wendell I couldn't help noticing several awards modestly hung in a corner of the room. One was the Shikar-Safari Club International Conservation Officer of the Year award for 1968. Wendell was the first officer in Iowa to receive this prestigious award, given annually to an officer in each state for outstanding service in the field of conservation, game management and public relations. Another was the Tobin award, given by the Izaak Walton League in 1980.

When asked about changes he had seen take place over the years, Wendell pointed out the successes of the deer and wild turkey. "When I moved to Johnson County in 1951 I lived here several months before I



Terrie L. Simonson

### Law Enforcement Runs In This Family By Don B. Simonson

It all started in 1946 when Wendell Simonson accepted a position as a conservation officer with the Iowa Conservation Commission and was assigned to the Kossuth County area. The same year he married my mother and moved to Algona. In June of 1951 dad applied for and received a transfer to the Johnson County area. By this time my brother John, my sister Rebecca and I had arrived, and the five of us moved to Oxford where dad and my mother, Alice, still live in the same house where they raised their family, which includes my sister Barbara and my brother Bob.

One by one we all graduated from high school and moved away from home. The girls followed mom into the beauticians' profession. Becky is still working at that and Barbara has gone on to be a licensed practical nurse. I guess it was only natural the boys would end up enforcing the law.

In February, 1969, I accepted a position as a conservation officer and was assigned to the Des Moines County area.

In 1974, my brother John accepted a position as a trooper with the Iowa State Patrol, and was assigned to the Newton area.

My brother Bob accepted a position as a deputy sheriff with the Louisa County Sheriff's Department in May, 1982.

Whatever the field, working in law enforcement is not all roses. But, all in all, most officers are proud of their uniform, badge and the agency they work for. I am sure my brothers will agree with me that we owe our interest in and dedication to our jobs to our dad.

had a road-killed deer. That year I may have had six or eight. In 1984 I had 304 reported road-killed deer in Johnson County."

"We also have a good population of turkeys and a good turkey hunting season. They've come along very well."

In discussing parts of the job that were not so enjoyable the subject always came back to drownings and accident investigations.

"Drownings were tough. Usually the victim was not as competent as he or she thought they were, or they were overly tired but in either case not wearing a life jacket."

"Most people feel accidents just won't happen to them. Perhaps they are even a bit over-enthusiastic around water and don't use common sense. Unfortunately alcohol often plays a role in accidents. In my forty years as an officer, drownings were always the toughest."

Some of Wendell's best times occurred with camera, microphone or slide projector in hand. Over the years his regular radio programs, educational and entertaining slide presentations and wildlife photography have been enjoyed by thousands. Now that Wendell is retired he plans to pursue his hobbies of writing and outdoor photography.

"I will continue to be involved with people and wildlife because that's what I like. Alice and I have bought a camper and plan to do some traveling around the state. I would like Alice to see the spring goose flight over along the Missouri River in southwest Iowa. It is a spectacular sight. It's about time I learned how to trout fish too! We will have a whole new schedule for ourselves..."

To Wendell Simonson, good luck. The many grateful Iowans who have been touched by your fine efforts look forward to crossing your path.



# MORELS AND FALSE MORELS

By George Knaphus, Lois H. Tiffany, and Donald M. Huffman

The Iowa morel-false morel research project conducted for the last two years will be continued into the 1986 morel season. The 1984 collecting season was quite successful with over 230 specimens submitted by collectors from around the state. The dry spring of 1985 was not conducive to morel fruiting and the number of specimens examined was less than 60. In addition, plans made in 1985 to assay the false morels for the toxic compound mono-methylhydrazine were not carried out because so few specimens of the false morels were received. Documented occurrences (including 1984, 1985 and previous collections) of species of morels (*Morchella* spp.) and false morels (spp. of *Verpa* or *Gyromitra*) are summarized on the adjoining maps.

Documented morel species include *Morchella esculenta* (the yellow or tan morel), *Morchella deliciosa* (the white or grey morel), *Morchella angusticeps* (one of the black morels), *Morchella crassipes* (giant or bigfoot morel) and *Morchella semilibra* (the half-free morel). *Morchella esculenta* and *M. deliciosa* seem to be distributed throughout Iowa. The distribution pattern of *M. crassipes* is more difficult to interpret without additional information. Some mushroom researchers believe these three species to be parts of a single variable species, an interpretation that hopefully can be evaluated better when we have more information.

*Morchella semilibra* and *M. angusticeps*, are distinctly different from the previously mentioned morels and also quite different from each other. *M. angusticeps* seems to have a quite limited distribution in Iowa on the basis of our present information. *M. semilibra* has been found only in the southern two-thirds of the state.

Most people find all of the *Morchella* species very tasty, although some people do find a difference in flavor. There are no reports of toxic compounds in any of the species of *Morchella*. There are, however, many people who have become sensitized



Photos by authors

to the proteins in some of these morels and who cannot eat them. Eating too many in a short period of time may trigger sensitization.

The false morels documented in Iowa include *Gyromitra brunnea*, *Gyromitra caroliniana*, *Verpa conica* and *Verpa bohemica*. *Gyromitra brunnea* may occur throughout Iowa, but we need specimens particularly from northern and northwestern Iowa to establish a more valid distribution pattern. In contrast, *G. caroliniana* seems to be limited to the southern portion of the state.

*Verpa conica* also seems to have a southern distribution on the basis of our present information. *Verpa bohemica*, called the early morel in Michigan, seems to occur only in the northeastern corner of Iowa.

During the 1986 season we hope especially that specimens will be received from counties where the various species have not been previously documented.

The two species of *Gyromitra* may contain gyromitrin, a compound which breaks down to form mono-methylhydrazine when the fungus is boiled in water or when it is eaten. This toxin is insidious because symptoms may not occur if moderate amounts of the false morel are eaten, but consuming larger amounts may trigger a very serious effect, and in some cases cause death. Thus a person may eat moderate amounts and presume the fungus is safe to eat but experience a very dangerous illness if the toxin accumulates to the threshold level. *Verpa bohemica* is suspected

of containing compounds which may cause loss of muscular coordination and is not recommended as edible.

This spring the researchers on this project include Don Huffman of Central College at Pella, chairman of the Prairie States Mushroom club, and Lois Tiffany, Laura Sweets, and George Knaphus at Iowa State University. They have the strong support and excellent help of the Extension Service of Iowa State University. They ask that one specimen of each kind of morel and false morel collected be sent to Dr. Lois Tiffany, Plant Pathology Extension Service of Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011, or specimens may be submitted to county extension offices in the state for shipment. They can also be submitted to Dr. Don Huffman, Biology Dept., Central College, Pella, Iowa 50219.

The specimens can be past their prime, especially the true morels, because spores are produced late in their development and are useful for identification even when the morels are no longer appetizing as food. The *Gyromitra* fruiting bodies submitted should be as fresh as possible so testing for gyromitrin can be done. All specimens may be wrapped in paper toweling or newspaper and packaged in a protective paper container. They *must not be put in plastic bags* as they will deteriorate very quickly in plastic containers.

The following information for each specimen would be useful: 1) collector's name, 2) date of collection, 3) county where collected, 4) plants, especially trees, in the vicinity, 5) collection area (hillside, bottom land, etc.).

Finally, we ask everyone, especially physicians, to report instances of suspected mushroom poisoning whether from these fungi or others. We need more information on symptomology and extent of illness involving mushrooms. Hopefully this project can help to clarify the extent of this problem in Iowa and give us all confidence in eating mushrooms safely.



# Morchella

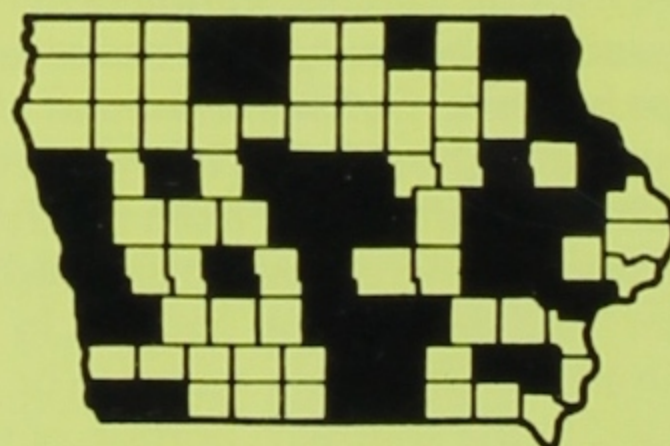


Yvonne Chadek, cooperator in fungi project shows morels.

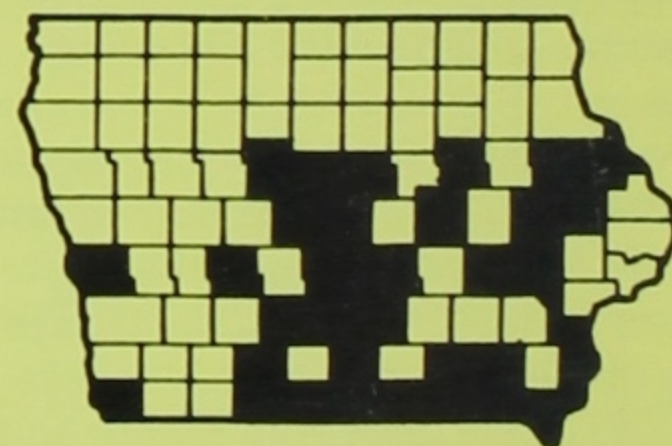
## Iowa Morels and False Morels

These species of morels *Morchella* and false morels *Verpa* and *Gyromitra* are found in Iowa. The accompanying maps show counties with documented occurrences. Specimens of each species from other counties are needed to determine the full extent of occurrence.

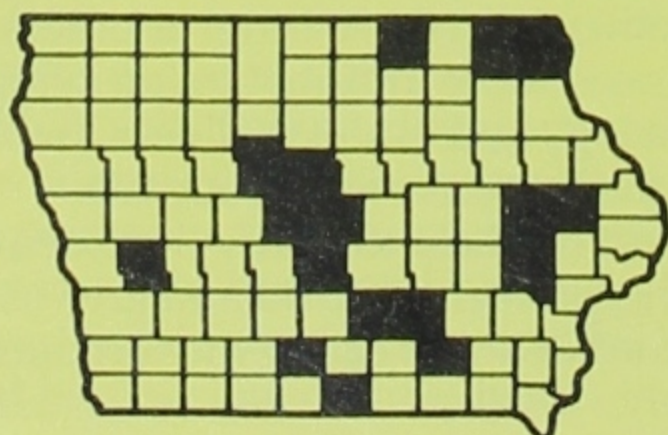
*M. esculenta*



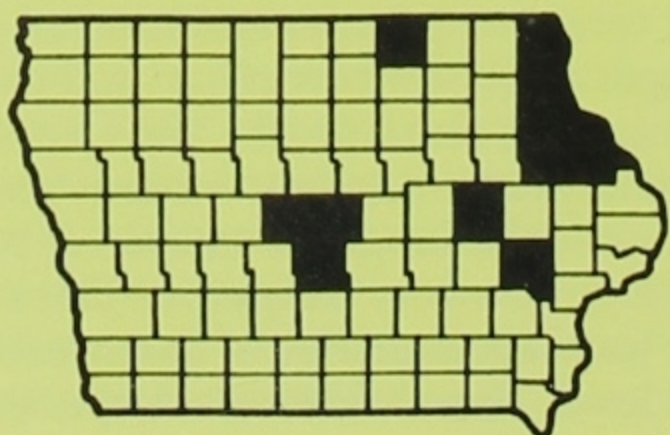
*M. semilibra*



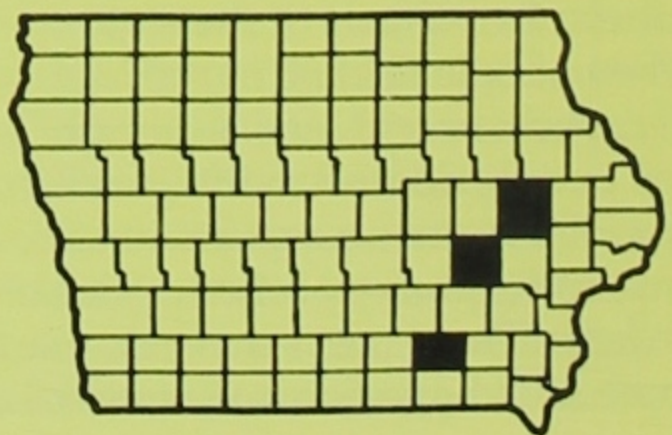
*M. deliciosa*



*M. crassipes*



*M. agusticeps*



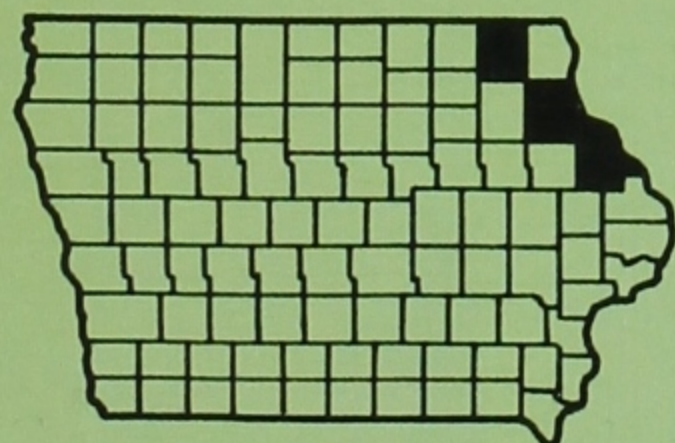


# Verpa

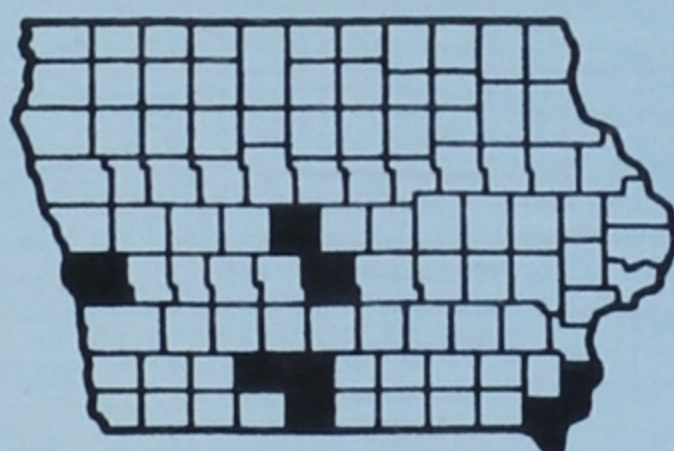
*V. conica*



*V. bohemica*

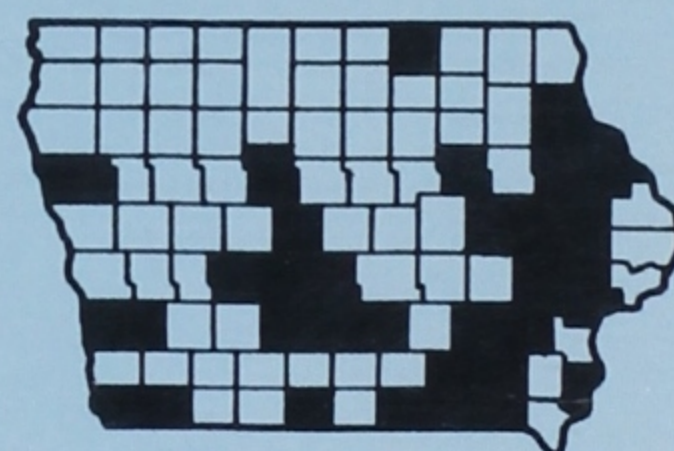
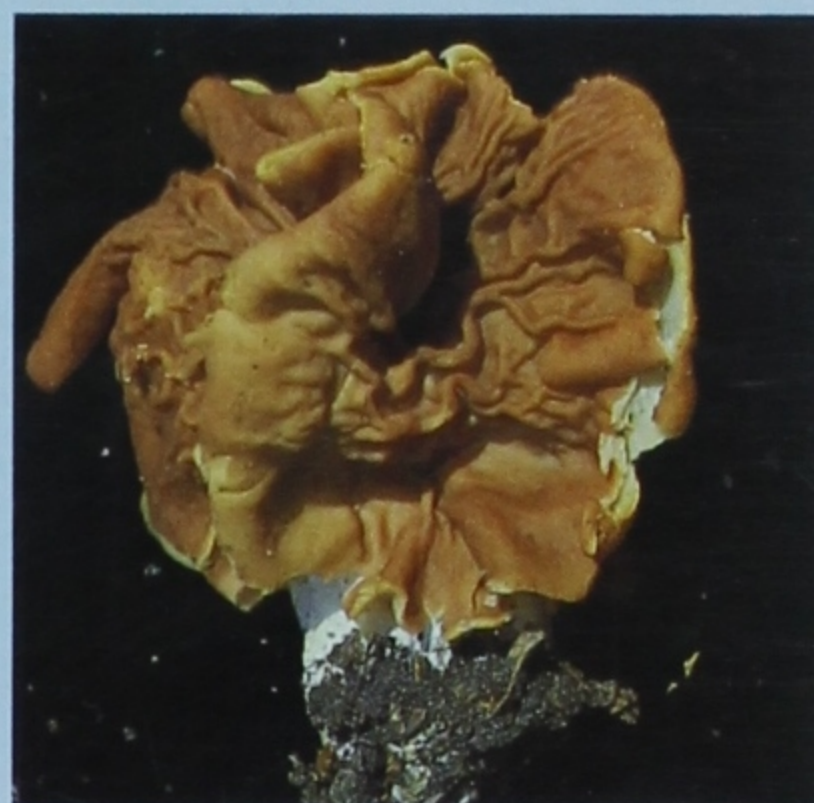


*G. caroliniana*



# Gyromitra

*G. brunnea*



*Dr. Lois Tiffany holds a large specimen of Gyromitra caroliniana*

A new 24-page bulletin, "Morels, False Morels and other Fungi" (PM-1204) by Lois Tiffany, George Knaphus and Robert Nyvall has been published by the Iowa State University Extension Service. It contains pictures of all of the morels and false-morels as well as identification and general information about them. Available at county extension offices for \$2.00, it may also be ordered from the Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.

George Knaphus and Lois Tiffany are both professors in the botany department at Iowa State University. Donald Huffman is a professor in the biology department at Central College in Pella.



B-FREEZE J1 DEPOCAPTLCR+  
DEPOSITORY LIBR CTR COMP  
CAPITOL COMPLEX  
DES MOINES IA 50319

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE  
PAID AT DES MOINES, IOWA

